THE

DIARY

OF THE LATE

GEORGE BUBB DODINGTON,

BARON OF MELCOMBE REGIS:

From March 8, 1749, to February 6, 1761.

WITH AN

APPENDIX,

CONTAINING

SOME CURIOUS AND INTERSTING PAPERS,

Which are either referred to, or alluded to, in the DIARY.

PUBLISHED

From his Lordſhip's Original Manuſcripts,

BY HENRY PENRUDDOCKE WYNDHAM.

THE THIRD EDITION.

Et tout pour la trippe.

RABELAIS, Liv. 4. Chap. 57.

And all for quarter day!

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MDCCLXXXV.

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THIS BOOK

IS DEDICATED

TO that man, (whenever he may appear) who, bleſſed with a ſoul ſuperior to all lucrative and ambitious views, will dare to ſtand forth the generous advocate and benevolent protector of the publick welfare—Who, when in office, will make the good of his fellow-ſubjects the ſole rule of his adminiſtration; and who, when out of office, independent of every partial connection, will ſteadily and uniformly adhere to the ſame honeſt plan—Who, while in

power, will boldly oppoſe all meaſures, however profitable to himſelf or his friends, that may be detrimental to the cauſe of his country; and who, when deprived of power, unſhaken by preſent diſappointments, or uninfluenced by future expectations, will as boldly ſupport every meaſure, which may be beneficial to that cauſe, though it originates from his moſt hated adverſary.

Such a man may be juſtly honoured with the glorious title, (hitherto, alas! ideal!) which in all ages has been frequently conferred, but, perhaps, never yet merited, of a

PATRIOT.

PREFACE.

THE following Diary is printed from a manuscript of the late Lord Melcombe's, and as the reader may be inquisitive to know the stages through which it came into my possession, I shall briefly satisfy his curiosity.

Lord Melcombe died in the year 1762, and bequeathed his whole property, (a few legacies excepted) to his cousin, the late Thomas Wyndham of Hammersmith.

Mr. Thomas Wyndham, who died in the year 1777, left, among many other kind remembrances, a clause in his will in the following words: "I give to Henry Penruddocke Wyndham all my books, and all the late Lord Melcombe's political papers,

letters, and poems, requesting of him not to print or publish any of them, but those that are proper to be made publick, and such only, as may, in some degree, do honour to his memory."

The latter part of this clause has, hitherto, made me hesitate on the propriety of making his Lordship's Diary publick; for although it may reflect a considerable degree of honour on his Lordship's abilities, yet, in my opinion, it shews his political conduct, (however palliated by the ingenuity of his own pen) to have been wholly directed by the base motives of avarice, vanity, and selfishness.

What, beside these motives, induced him to quit the service of George II. and to prefer the protection of Frederick, Prince of Wales, to that of his old master? alas! he could not then foresee the black cloud, which was preparing to obscure the expected glory of the rising sun, and to blast the hopes of all its worshippers.

What, beside these motives, made his Lordship discontented and miserable, while he remained in the court of that Prince? a party was, there, quickly combined against him, which, unfortunately for Lord Melcombe, was actuated by the same selfish principles, as he himself was.

What, beside these motives, tempted him, after the death of the Prince of Wales, to court the Pelhams with the most abject and fawning servility, and, at the same time, in secret opposition to his great patroness, the Princess Dowager?

But all this may be strictly honourable within the verge of a court; and, on this account, I could patiently hear his Lordship recommend Mr. Ralph, as a very honest man, and in the same pages inform us, that he was ready to be hired to any cause; that he actually put himself to auction to the two contending parties, (the Bedford and Pelhams) and that, after several biddings, the *honest* Mr. Ralph was bought by the Pelhams.

However, I cannot patiently forgive the violent declamation of his Lordſhip againſt "*the low and venal wretches of Bridgewater;*" as if a bribe, taken by a miſerable voter, and, poſſibly, for the ſupport of a numerous and indigent family, was more diſhonourable than a place or penſion, enjoyed or coveted by the opulent, for the ſole purpoſes, either of accumulating riches, or of extending the pomp of pride and power.

I am aware that, in treating the character of my Author thus freely, I ſhall appear as a very extraordinary Editor, the practice of whom has generally been, to prefer flattery to truth, and partiality to juſtice. But it may be worth conſidering, whether my method, or the common one, is the leſs injurious to the character of an Author; and whether the reader may not be more inclined to overlook or pardon thoſe errors, which he is previouſly inſtructed to expect, than he would be, if every page contradicted the favourable impreſſions, which the Editor, had been

induſ-

induſtriouſly labouring to fix on his mind.

But it is now time to anſwer a very natural queſtion: How could I, with ſuch ſentiments of the Diary, venture to publiſh it, conſiſtent with the clauſe in the will?

To what I have ſaid before, that the Diary was written by Lord Melcombe, I ſhall add, that every part of it was carefully copied from rough drafts, and that ſcarcely a blot or correction is to be ſeen throughout the whole. The month alſo, and each day of the week, is accurately inſcribed on the margin, with his own pen, in printing characters.

From theſe circumſtances I conclude, that Lord Melcombe wrote for the publick, and that he intended his Diary ſhould, in a future ſeaſon, be produced to light: it is alſo manifeſt, that his Lordſhip meant it as an apology for his political conduct, and that he could not write it merely for amuſe-

amuſement, or ſolely for his own retroſpection, or for the private peruſal only of his heirs.

The late Mr. Wyndham, through whoſe hands the MS. came to me, was of this opinion.

It ſeems therefore that, in publiſhing this Diary, I am certainly fulfilling Lord Melcombe's deſign, and doing what he anticipated ſome one or other ſhould do; it is to be ſuppoſed that, in his opinion, there is nothing diſhonourable in the Diary, and to his judgment I am in duty bound to ſacrifice my own: the prejudices, perhaps, of education have inſtilled in my mind ideas of honour, very different from thoſe of his Lordſhip, which——

——————— *putavi*
Stultus ego huic noſtræ ſimiles——

But, notwithſtanding, if I thought that any part of the Diary would tend to make one worthy character unhappy, or cauſe the ſmalleſt injury to the common good, I ſhould,

I ſhould, without heſitation, ſuppreſs it: nay, I would inſtantly commit it to the flames, leſt it might hereafter be productive of thoſe conſequences.

If, on the contrary, by unveiling the myſterious intrigues of a Court, and by expoſing the latent cauſes of oppoſition, the Diary teaches us, that both one and the other may act from the ſame intereſted and corrupt principle; it may then make us cautiouſly diffident of the motives of either; and the country gentlemen, in particular, may learn from it, that they have as much to dread from thoſe, who are in purſuit of power, as from thoſe in actual poſſeſſion of it; from thoſe, who are, hopefully, working in the cold climate of diſappointment, as from thoſe, who are luxuriouſly baſking in the ſunſhine of enjoyment.

The Diary may even animate thoſe gentlemen to the love of true patriotiſm, and probably, inſtruct them to be more attentive to the *meaſures* of Adminiſtration,

than

than to the *parties* which form it; and may check and controul that reftlefs aver-fion to all government, fo prevalent amongft them, and againft which, the beft Minifter is no more fecure than the worft.

For have we not fometimes feen, when, after a long and laborious ftruggle, they have at length placed their favourite pilot at the helm; that, before they have fuffered him to hold the rudder for one voyage, they have been as violent in their efforts of removing him, as they had been in raif-ing him to it?

I think it neceffary to obferve, that I have not publifhed the Diary quite entire, as it would be no entertainment to the reader to be informed, who daily dined with his Lordfhip, or whom he met at the tables of other people.

Such and fome other trivial particulars I have omitted, but I have been careful

not to alter any part of the original writing, for though ſome obſcurities darken a few paſſages (which, indeed, might naturally be expected from his Lordſhip's circumſtantial manner of reciting long converſations), yet, I have not preſumed to give them my explanation, being of opinion that the reader has an equal right with myſelf, to put his own conſtruction upon them.

Some trifling anecdotes, however, may ſtill appear in the preſent volume, ſuch as the diſputes of the Dorſet family; the Bridgewater, and other elections, &c. but theſe are ſo interwoven and connected with the general matter, and ſo often referred to, that I could not, with propriety, reject them, leſt the whole might, otherwiſe, ſeem embarraſſed and unintelligible.

THE

DIARY.

IN the beginning of this year, I was 1749.
grievouſly afflicted with the firſt fit of the gout, which, with a fall that ſtrained one leg and wounded the other, confined me to my chamber near three months.

During my illneſs, ſeveral kind expreſ- MAR. 8.
ſions from the Prince towards me, were reported to me; and on the 8th of March, his Royal Highneſs ordered the Earl of Middleſex, his Maſter of the Horſe, to ſend Mr. Ralph (whom he had often talked to about me) with a meſſage from his Royal Highneſs, to offer me the full return of his favour, and to put the principal direction of his affairs into my hands.

1749. MAR. 8. I told Mr. Ralph, that I desired the two following days to consider of it; and that he should have my answer at twelve o'clock, on Saturday the 11th instant.

11. This day in the morning I wrote to Mr. Pelham, desiring him, as I was not able to go out, to wait upon the King, and in my name humbly to resign, into his Majesty's hands, my office of Treasurer of the Navy.

The same day I gave Mr. Ralph my answer in writing to the Prince's gracious message, to be delivered to the Earl of Middlesex, taking his honour, that he would lay it before his Royal Highness; which Mr. Ralph performed, as did also his Lordship.

The same morning, I received a very civil letter from Mr. Pelham, testifying his concern and surprise at my resolution, and desiring that he might see me, before he delivered my message to the King, and acquainting me, that he would come to me,

on

on Monday the 13th in the morning, be- 1749.
fore he went to court, being then just go- MAR. 11.
ing into the country.

This day early in the morning, Mr. 13.
Pelham made me a long visit with much civility; he seemed to wish much that this affair might go no farther. I told him that I saw the country in so dangerous a condition, and found myself so incapable to contribute to its relief and so unwelcome to attempt it; that I thought it misbecame me any longer to receive great emoluments from a country, whose service I could not, and if I could, I should not be suffered to promote; so I begged him to execute my commission to the King; and then we parted.

He came to me again, about eleven o'clock, to let me know that the King accepted my resignation very graciously, but expected that I would continue to act, till he could fix upon a proper successor. I did so, and was continued in the office till the 3d of May.

1749. JULY 16. The Prince was extremely kind to me, and often admitted me to the honour of ſupping with him and the Princeſs. But on Saturday the 15th of July, going to Carleton Houſe, to make my compliments before I went to Eaſtbury, he ordered me to ſup with him, and invited me to ſpend the day with him, at Kew, on the following Tueſday, being the 18th, wanting, as he was pleaſed to ſay, to talk to me about buſineſs.

18. This day I arrived at Kew about eleven o'clock. The Prince received me moſt kindly, and told me he deſired me to come into his ſervice upon any terms, and by any title I pleaſed: that he meant to put the principal direction of his affairs into my hands: and what he could not do for me in his preſent ſituation, muſt be made up to me in futurity. All this in a manner ſo noble and frank, and with expreſſions ſo full of affection and regard, that I ought not to remember them, but as a debt, and to perpetuate my gratitude. This paſſed before dinner.

After dinner, he took me into a private room, and of himself began to say, that he thought I might as well be called Treasurer of the Chambers, as any other name: that the Earl of Scarborough, his Treasurer, might take it ill, if I stood upon the establishment with higher appointments than he did: that his Royal Highness's destination was, that I should have 2000*l.* *per ann.* That he thought it best to put me upon the establishment at the highest salary, only, and that he would pay me the rest himself. I humbly desired, that I might stand upon the establishment without any salary, and that I would take what he now designed for me, when he should be King, but nothing before. He said, that it became me, to make him that offer, but it did not become him to accept it, consistent with his reputation, and therefore, it must be, in present. He then immediately added, that we must settle what was to happen in reversion, and said, that he thought a Peerage with the management of the House of Lords, and the Seals of Secretary of State, for the 1749. July 18.

 southern

1749. July 18. southern province; would be a proper station for me, if I approved of it. Perceiving me to be under much confusion at this unexpected offer, and at a loss how to express myself; he stopped me, and then said, I now promise you on the word and honour of a Prince, that, as soon as I come to the Crown, I will give you a Peerage and the Seals of the southern province. Upon my endeavouring to thank him, he repeated the same words, and added (putting back his chair) and I give you leave to kiss my hand upon it, now, by way of acceptance; which I did accordingly.

He then continued to say, that he would provide for my friends, whom he knew I valued more than myself: that he promised Mr. Furnese, the Treasury: Sir Francis Dashwood, the Treasury of the Navy, or Cofferer: Mr. Henley, Solicitor General, and gave me leave to tell them so, adding, that he would confirm it to them himself. Lord Talbot I was to settle with, when I saw him in Dorsetshire. We agreed,

that

that he should send for me to Cliefden, when he was settled there, where the warrant should be ordered, &c. &c. 1749. JULY 18.

Upon the conversation before dinner, I had taken the opportunity to beg the Princess's protection, who answered me in the most obliging manner.

I saw Mr. Furnese and Mr. Ralph at Hammersmith, to whom I related all that had passed, and promised Mr. Ralph, that he should be my Secretary, if I lived to have the Seals. 19.

Went to Eastbury. 20.

Lord Talbot came over to me at Eastbury. I acquainted him with this whole transaction; he promised to support me to the utmost, and to do the Prince all possible service; but would accept no reversion. 23.

Sir Francis Dashwood and his Lady came to Eastbury. I informed him also 31.

1749. JULY 31. of all that had paſſed. He received, with much pleaſure, both what related to himſelf and to me.

AUG. 9. Mr. Bance came to Eaſtbury, whom alſo I acquainted with all that had paſſed between the Prince and me, and offered him my endeavours to procure for him the reverſion of the Remittances, or of the Board of Trade, if he had a mind to leave the city. He received my narrative with much pleaſure, and my offers with great kindneſs and affection; proteſting that he had no wiſh, but to remain always my faithful friend and ſervant, and deſired, nor would have, nothing. But upon my preſſing him, he ſaid, that if it muſt be ſo, he ſhould chuſe the Remittances, and to have the ſecret and government of the Bank, as what he thought, would render him moſt uſeful to his friends; to which I agreed, and promiſed to undertake the affair with the Prince.

SEPT. 7. I received the Prince's commands, by the

the Earl of Egmont, to attend him at Cliefden. 1749. SEPT. 7.

Lord Shaftesbury came this morning: I opened part of the Prince's scheme to him, he seemed pleased and willing to assist; and thought he could answer for Lord Foley, and promised to try him.

Returned to Gunnersbury. 11.

Saw Mr. Ralph, and talked with him about Lord Egmont's acquainting Cary with the whole transaction between him and me.

Went from Gunnersbury to Cliefden. 14. Well received by all the family. There were besides, the Earl of Bute and Lord Chief Justice Willes.

Dined with their Royal Highnesses at 15. Park Place. Lord Chief Justice went from thence to Henley.

Orders to Mr. Drax, by Lord Egmont, 16.

to

1749. SEPT. 16. to make out my warrant. Received an account that Lord Cobham died on Wednesday the 13th.

17. The Prince and Lord Egmont went to Town from Cliefden. The Princess to Kew. They returned thither about nine, I met them at ten. Lord Bathurst came to Cliefden in the morning, and from thence to Kew.

Sir William Stanhope came to Cliefden.

23. At Ashley. Sent an ode to the Princess, with a letter, by her command.

24. Received an answer from the Princess.

29. Heard the news of the death of Sir Watkin Williams, by a fall from his horse.

OCT. 1. Kissed the Prince's and Princess's hands, as Treasurer of the Chambers. Supped with their Royal Highnesses and Madame de Mirepoix, the French Ambassadress. The

The Prince pretty eager about opposition. 1749. Oct. 1.

Kissed the King's hand at Kensington. 2.
Was civilly received. Wrote to Lady Middlesex about what passed last night. Sent a servant to the Grange with a letter to Mr. Henley, and wrote to Mr. Waller.

Set out from London. Met an answer from Mr. Henley; not so full as I expected. Lay at Sutton, and arrived at Eastbury the following day.

Mr. Drax came to Eastbury; he says, 6.
Lady Middlesex is cunning and silly, and warns me against her.

Went to Lord Shaftesbury's, and left him 7.
very well disposed; found General Cholmondley there—at my return found Mr. Henley, shewed him Lord Egmont's letter, and my answer, and the heads which I designed from the Prince. He seemed to

1749. to approve, and promised to promote every
Oct. 7. thing according to my system.

8. Mr. Henley went away.

12. Arrived at Hammersmith.

13. Sent a memorial with a letter to the Prince—waited on their Royal Highnesses. They lay at Kew, and ordered me to attend them the next day.

14. Came to Kew at two. Walked with the Princess alone till four. Dined and supped there. Lords Inchiquin and Bute, Ladies Middlesex and Howe, Mr. Breton and I.

15. At Leicester House. The Grenvilles presented for the title of Temple. Supped at Carleton House—Their Royal Highnesses, Ladies Middlesex, Howe, Madame de Mirepoix; Lords Bute and North.

16. Went to Cliefden with their Royal Highnesses. Lords Inchiquin and Bathurst

 met

met us. The Princeſs talked to me about Lord North for a governor to Prince George, which I approved of. 1749. Oct. 16.

We all went to Ouborn Fair; Prince George in our coach. 20.

The Princeſs talked much to me about the Earl of Granville. 22.

We left Cliefden—dined and ſupped at Kew; and left the children there. We came to Town about one. 28.

King's birth-day kept. I was at St. James's: then at Carleton Houſe: went to dine with Sir Samuel Pennant, Lord Mayor, by the Prince's command. Nobody at the feaſt between the Lord Chancellor and me. 30.

Dined and ſupped at Kew. The Prince read to me an anſwer to my memorial written with his own hand. The difference in opinion between us is not conſiderable. Nov. 4.

1749. derable. The piece is aſtoniſhingly well
Nov. 4. drawn.

12. I dined at Carleton Houſe. The company, only the Prince, the Earl of Egmont, and Dr. Lee. Our buſineſs, the immediate ſteps to be taken upon the demiſe of the King, more particularly with relation to the Civil Liſt. His Royal Highneſs ſaid, he had had three methods propoſed to him: the firſt was to let the preſent Miniſters ſettle it, and then part with them and the Parliament: the ſecond was, to diſmiſs four or five of the principals, but to vote the Civil Liſt before the Parliament was diſſolved: the third, (which he was pleaſed to ſay, he thought was my opinion) was to diſmiſs the Parliament immediately, to turn all thoſe out whom he did not deſign to continue, and to throw himſelf upon the country, for a new Parliament, and a proviſion for himſelf and family, which he deſired ſhould be only a clear annuity of 800,000*l.* giving back the duties to the public, with whatever ſurplus might attend it. The

6 firſt

first proposition, his Royal Highness put 1749.
out of the question: the second and third, Nov. 12.
he desired that he might be fully satisfied upon, from a full consideration; because what was there determined, he would unalterably stand by, when communicated, and agreed to by the Earl of Carlisle, Lord Baltimore, and Lord Chief Justice Willes. It was discussed, and we were all, at last, of opinion, that the third proposition was the greatest, most popular, and the best. His Royal Highness came heartily into it, gave us his hand, and made us take hands with each other to stand by, and support it. I undertook to find 2 or 300,000*l.* to go on with, till a new Parliament could grant the Civil List.

I kissed the Duke's hand. Saw the 13.
Earl of Carlisle; he was for the second proposition, and for keeping the Prince's destination of employments secret, because he was unwilling the Pelhams should know they were desperate with him: he did not see how the House of Lords could be carried on without the Earl of Granville.

Sir

1749. Nov. 13. Sir Paul Methuen was for the third proposition.

14. Lord Middlesex and Mr. Ralph came in the evening—much talk about bringing the Prince's affairs to some regulation.

15. Dined at Carleton House—The Prince, Earls of Carlisle and Egmont, Lord Chief Justice Willes, Lord Baltimore, Sir John Rushout, Messrs. Gibbon, Lee, Henley, Nugent, Sir Thomas Bootle and I. Agreed not to oppose the Address, unless there should be something very strong in it.

16. The session of Parliament opened with a very modest Speech. The Address, moved by Mr. Charles Townshend, and seconded by Sir Danvers Osborne, I thought a very unexceptionable one, and I did not oppose it. Sir John Hynde Cotton did, upon the Peace not being complete, as is there said. The Earl of Egmont then made a violent and very injudicious speech against the Address, throwing out every thing he could think, or had heard of

of against the Ministry. Lord Baltimore 1749.
said but little on the same side, and so the Nov. 16.
matter dropt, and the Address was voted. I went to the Prince before I dined, to give him an account of what had passed: he did not seem to make much account of it, one way or another.

Lady Mary Coke appeared at the King's 17.
Bench, and obtained leave for lawyers, all her relations, and the Earl of Pembroke to come to her. Lord Middlesex and Mr. Furnese came to me in the evening. Much serious conversation about the behaviour, in and out of Parliament, of the Prince's family, and of our situation in it. Agreed that it must be altered, or that I could be of no use there, and consequently could not stay. Earl of Middlesex undertook to talk to the Prince about it. I was presented to the Princess Amelia, and kissed her hand.

The Princess's birth-day; but not kept 19.
till Wednesday, because Queen Caroline died on the 20th. The Prince ordered

1749. Nov. 19. me to signify, that he would not meddle with the Westminster election.

20. Mr. Bodens informed me that Mr. Douglas, at Lord Robert Bertie's, said, that I solicited to come into the Prince's family, agreeing not to be at the head; Dr. Lee was at the head.

22. The Princess's birth-day was kept. Dined with me the following publick Ministers; Marquis de Mirepoix, Comte de Haslang, Monf. le General Comte de Luccheſi, Monf. le General Wall, Monf. le Comte de Fleming, Monf. le Comte de Perrou, Monf. l'Abbé de Groſſa-teſta; Meſſ. les Chevaliers de Levy, de Laurency, de Teſſier; Monf. d'Andrara, Monf. d'Abriau, Monf. de Comte d'Einſiddell, Monf. le Baron Kraygill, Monf. de Fioren, Lord Tyrawley, and Mr. Breton. I went to Lord Middleſex, who had been with me in the morning, to tell me that the Prince had ſent for him on Sunday, that his Royal Highneſs ſeemed much heated, having heard from Lord Baltimore, that

I was

I was in a great passion at what passed in Parliament last Thursday, and declared that I would have voted against them, if they had divided upon the Address.—Asked if such behaviour was not intolerable. Lord Middlesex assured him, that I talked it over to him, in the House, with great calmness and without the least passion; that Lord Baltimore joined us for a little time, and seemed to be of our opinion; that he, Lord Middlesex, as well as I, thought that the Address should have gone without opposition, and that Lord Egmont's speech was very injudicious, &c. but the Prince seemed of a contrary opinion, and the conversation ended, by his directing Lord Middlesex to quiet me. I went, as I said before, to Lord Middlesex in the evening, and we had much talk. Both Lord and Lady Middlesex were of opinion, that a party was made against me in the family, and that it was best to come to an explanation with the Prince. I supped with their Royal Highnesses at Carleton House. Lords Bute and Inchiquin, Ladies Middlesex and Howe. 1749. Nov. 22.

1749. Nov. 23. Was to wait on the Prince, who appointed me Friday at twelve o'clock.

Went to council. The King present. Ten thousand seamen voted. Earls of Hallifax and Broke sworn Lord Lieutenants of Northamptonshire and Warwickshire.

24. Earl of Middlesex and Mr. Ralph were with me, to acquaint me that the printer and publisher of the Remembrancer was taken up for his paper of last Saturday the 18th instant, but that the messenger used them with uncommon civility, touched nothing of their papers, presses, or effects, and took their words for their surrendering themselves the next morning. My Lord had been with the Prince, who agreed to indemnify them as to the expence, but was very averse, that any thing should be done to make him at all appear in it, which made them very uneasy.

At half past twelve I went to Carleton House,

Houſe, and in a quaater of an hour was 1749.
called in. Sir Thomas Bootle was with Nov. 24.
the Prince. His Royal Highneſs took me into a window, and me that he had ſent Middleſex to me, about the ſeizing the printer, &c. What was to be done? and then without giving me time to anſwer, he ran out into reaſons why nobody that belonged to him muſt appear. I gently let him ſee that I thought otherwiſe, and inſinuated, whether, if Mr. Ralph ſhould be taken up, it would not be proper that Lord Middleſex and I ſhould bail him: he ſaid, by no means, and therefore Ralph ſhould be ſpoken to, that he might keep out of the way, &c. At laſt he ordered, that he ſhould go to my houſe at Hammerſmith; with which I agreed, thinking *that* the ſtrongeſt mark of his protection that we could deſire. After much talk about this and that, and ſome idle accounts about the poll at Covent Garden, he made me ſit by him, and ran into a long diſcourſe about the army, and then about the reduction of intereſt, and ſo let himſelf into a diſcourſe about the neceſſity

of

1749. Nov. 24. of ſaying ſomething upon thoſe things in Parliament, to feel pulſe, and keep the party together, &c. all which was deſigned as an apology (inſtead of finding fault) to me, for what had paſſed the beginning of the ſeſſion—I took it up, upon his mentioning ſomething about talk, and throwing things out, to expoſe, &c. and ſaid that I ſuppoſed talk might be right, but people ſhould conſider what talk, and if they had any thing to ſay: that perpetually throwing out things, which one neither underſtood nor could prove, was, I thought, and always ſhould think, expoſing one's ſelf, and not the perſon aimed at: that 'twas for his ſervice, to put little things into his power, to be verified beyond contradiction; that he might certainly know, what dependance was to be had upon thoſe they came from, when they informed him of greater matters. Therefore, I would furniſh him with one inſtance; he had heard I was in a great paſſion about the Earl of Egmont's behaviour upon the Addreſs: luckily for me, I had never ſpoken to any body about it, but to two perſons,

persons, favourite ſervants of his Royal Highneſs, and particular friends of mine, Lords Middleſex and Baltimore; the latter of whom joined us as we were talking of it very calmly; he ſeemed to be of our opinion, and ſaid, he had told Cotton we ſhould not divide with them: I knew that Lord Middleſex had told him how it paſſed, and if he would give me leave to bring Lord Baltimore to him, he would inform his Royal Highneſs that there was not the leaſt heat among any of us all. (I knew Baltimore was the author of this dirty piece of cunning.) That by this, he might ſee, if he pleaſed, what credit was to be given for the future to thoſe, who brought him this piece of intelligence. He thanked me, and was very gracious, and talked it off as well as he could; but in the multiplicity of diſcourſe, owned to me that Baltimore had told him, but meant no harm, &c. I replied, I had never ſeen buſineſs done in a meeting of a dozen, like that, on the fifteenth day, before the ſeſſion: that thoſe meetings were always declaratory, though in the ſhape of deliberation: that the

1749. Nov. 24

1749. the first concoction was always between
Nov. 24. the Prince and three or four persons at most: that I hoped to have laid my poor opinions before him in that manner, with two or three only; that I hoped to have found a friend there, especially Lord Middlesex, whom I thought, upon all accounts, ought to be at the first digestion: that then we should properly lay our thoughts jointly before his Royal Highness, or, if we differed, could reason it out with one another, and he might judge which side to adhere to. But to combat the opinions he adopted, separately with him, was impossible: we could not, we ought not to dispute with him, as we did with each other.

He was a good deal staggered at what I said about Lord Middlesex, and said, he ought, no doubt, to be of the great meeting: I said, of both sure, and added something much in his favour. I then told him, that I found very little disposition to friendship and cordiality with me, in those whom he seemed principally to confide

confide in, &c. He said I must not wonder there was a little shyness at first, there were so many stories, &c. &c. I replied, that I hoped he did not think, I mentioned it by way of complaint, for if it were not with relation to his service, I should never think of desiring the favour and countenance of any one, or of all of those gentlemen, as any sort of addition to me: that, as he thought it for his service, I already had done, though fruitlessly, and would continue to do every thing, and go all the way to obtain their good-will: that I begged he would observe, that in consequence of his service and commands, I would cheerfully do this, but separate from his service and commands, it never could have entered into my imagination to have made court to those gentlemen; because I never could think, nor did I believe, any body else would, that those gentlemen any where, or at any time, could do me any honour by admitting me among them. He then said, that, to be sure, I was in a situation and upon a footing that I ought not to make court to any man in England;

1749.
Nov. 24.

nobody

1749. Nov. 24. nobody could expect it from me. Having extorted this confeſſion, as a mark to remember this part of the converſation by, I left it there.

This is a ſhort recapitulation of a converſation of full two hours: it contains almoſt every word I ſaid. His Royal Highneſs talked all the reſt of the time.

Lord Middleſex came to me after dinner, to whom I communicated the whole; he was much pleaſed at it, and thinks that all will go well in time. I think otherwiſe, and that there is no proſpect of doing any good.

The printer and publiſher were ſet free without bail; only giving their words to appear, if ſent for by a Secretary of State. I ſent the Prince notice of it.

27. I went to town and polled for Sir George Vandeput; met with a great crowd, but

much civility. Returned to Hammersmith before five. 1749. Nov. 27.

Propoſition in Parliament to reduce all the four *per cents.* to three and a half *per cent.* for ſeven years certain, and then to three *per cent.* redeemable as before; continuing them for one year (which ſome of them were entitled to for notice) at four *per cent.* A debate, and different propoſitions to me unintelligible, (I am ſure injudicious) by the Earl of Egmont and others. 28.

Mr. Cooke came to know of me what aſſiſtance from the Prince might be relied upon, toward carrying the Weſtminſter election to a ſcrutiny. I promiſed to lay the affair before his Royal Highneſs. Dec. 1.

I introduced Mr. Cooke to the Prince, who aſſured him the election ſhould be ſupported. 2.

Went to Court. 3.

Land

1749. Land tax at three shillings in the pound
Dec. 4. voted in the Committee——much babbling.

5. Dr. Sharpe brought me a map and a written account of the importance of Nova Scotia. Lord Middlesex, Messrs. Ralph, Furnese, and the Doctor came in the evening, about bringing a question into Parliament, to defeat any claim, which (as is reported) the French have made to it.—Nothing determined. Supped at Carleton House, Ladies Middlesex and Howe, Lords Inchiquin and Bute, and I.

8. Received a letter from Mr. Edward Walpole about the Prince's consent to his purchasing a crown lease in Lancashire, which I laid before his Royal Highness, and received his commands. Westminster poll closed. Scrutiny granted, and to begin the 26th instant.

9. I went to Mr. Walpole, and told him from the Prince, that his Royal Highness had great good-will for him personally; no objec-

objection to his conduct, thought him a good servant of the King's, and doubted not, but that he would serve him as well, when he should be King: that as to the thing, his Royal Highness disliked the precedent; and, besides that, he had measures to keep, and might subject himself to the suspicion of having underhand dealings with the Court, by too easy compliances with requests of this nature, which was nothing less than giving away, by way of act of Parliament, so much of his inheritance: that therefore he desired a little time, and Mr Walpole should have his final answer before the term for bringing in private bills expired. Mr. Walpole confessed the fact to be as the Prince had stated it, and assured me, that he had no thoughts of attempting it, if his Royal Highness refused his consent: that Mr. Pelham was against it on that account, but, importuned by him, declared that he could not refuse his father's son, but never would be for another, of the same sort; and should move the King even in this, with much reluctance. This Mr. Walpole 1749. Dec. 9.

1749. pole desired I would acquaint the Prince
Dec. 9. with.

13. Went to Leicester House, delivered Mr. Walpole's answer to the Prince, who seemed in a disposition to grant his consent in proper time.

18. Mr. Cary dined with us, Messrs. Furnese and Ralph and Lord Talbot came in the afternoon. Much talk about the report carried to the Prince, that Cary saw the Duke privately; suppose to come from Ranby the chirurgeon. Agreed that it must be brought to a full eclaircissement.

24. At Leicester House, heard that the Earl of Crawford died that morning.

26. Went to Kew. Their Royal Highnesses: Ladies Middlesex and Howe: Lords Bute, Inchiquin and Bathurst: Messrs. Masham, Breton, and I: Lady Middlesex complained of the Prince.

At Kew. Mr. Bludworth came. Lady Middlesex and I staid together, after the company, till half past two, upon the same subject. 1749. Dec. 28.

Lady Middlesex conversed with me an hour upon the same subject, after the company went to bed. 29.

Received the Prince's commands to acquaint Mr. Walpole, that he consented to his bill about Garstang in Lancashire, which I communicated by letter to Mr. Walpole. 1750. Jan. 3.

The Earl of Pembroke died this day suddenly. 9.

Went to Leicester House, to see Jane Grey acted by the Prince's children. 11.

Mr. Walpole's petition read, and a bill ordered to be brought in. 15.

At the House. In the committee on the mutiny bill. I opposed the filling up the 16.

1750. the clauſe that puniſhes mutiny and deſer-
JAN. 16. tion with the word, Death—but was not ſupported.

19. Debate in the committee upon the mutiny bill. Oath of ſecreſy ſubjected to the requiſition of the Courts of Juſtice.

20. The Prince's birth-day. The ſame Miniſters and foreigners dined with me, as on the Princeſs's birth-day.

21. Supped at Lord Middleſex's, where I met the Prince and Princeſs, Lady Torrington, Earl of Inchiquin, Lord Bathurſt, Mr. Breton, Lady Shannon, Miſs Rich, and Mr. Maſham.

23. Debate upon the reviſion of ſentences by a court martial: carried, that they be ſent back by the Commander in Chief—*once* only.

29. Went to the Houſe. Debate upon a turnpike bill eſpouſed by the Duke of Bedford. Fulleſt houſe and greateſt diviſion

ſion of any day of the ſeſſion: after which the Houſe thinned. 1750. JAN. 29.

Lord Middleſex, by the Prince's order, ſhewed me a motion to be made the next day, for an account of the ſtate of the port of Dunkirk, and the papers that had paſſed on that ſubject. It was agreed, that I ſhould wait on the Prince the next day. FEB. 4.

I waited upon his Royal Highneſs, and told him that I was come to thank him for communicating the motion to me, which was more than any of my fellow-ſervants had condeſcended to do, ſince I came into his ſervice. He made me a very embarraſſed and perplexed anſwer. I then proceeded to ſay, that I had not been idle, but had been looking into ſeveral things, in order to form ſomething proper to be laid before Parliament. That I had, long had this particular point of Dunkirk under conſideration: was determined to be at the expence to know, and to procure evidence of the preſent ſtate of it, but my 5.

1750. acquaintance lay ſo much out of the mer-
FEB. 5. cantile way, that I was at a loſs how to go about it; that I had pitched upon Mr. Sheriff Janſen, being a trader himſelf, and much converſant in trade, as a proper perſon to inform and aſſiſt me: that the great fit of ſickneſs he fell into had, till now, diſabled him from going out, and that yeſterday was the firſt time I could get him to dinner. That I ſuppoſed, that, tho' I was ſo unfortunate as not to be ready, his Royal Highneſs was well informed of all things neceſſary to make out the charge, &c. He ſaid, No; but the throwing it out, would make the Miniſtry feel they had *la corde au col*, and it was an opportunity to abuſe them, &c. I ſaid that my idea had been, to bring ſomething of national weight, which I could fix by undeniable evidence upon them, and leave it there. That if I could have brought this affair up to that point, then I had deſigned to lay it before his Royal Highneſs, with this only remark, how far he thought proper to venture the conſequences with France, in the preſent condition of this country.

He

He said, the Tories wanted something to be done, and if he did not do something, they immediately thought he was negociating. I told him also, that I had been, for some time, getting such lights as I could into the affair of Nova Scotia, that I designed to lay it before him, when I had brought it to be worthy of his consideration; but it was my misfortune to think, that it was necessary to be armed with full proofs and conviction of every sort of the charge, before we brought it into the House. Upon that foot I submitted, that, in case upon this question of Dunkirk, it should come out, that the port was left just in the same condition it remained, under the treaty of Utrecht, without any innovation since the war, (the Ministry not having already enforced a stricter execution of that treaty, than ever had been enforced) it would not, I feared, make a very strong point against them. He was pleased to say, No, to be sure, so long an acquiescence would greatly diminish the objection. Upon these words I left him, and went directly to the

1750. Feb. 5.

1750. House. In the debate, I argued against
Feb. 5. the inexpediency and dangers, (which were the objections, set up by the Court, to granting these papers) that there could be *none*, because if it appeared that there had been no innovations since the war, and that the post was in the state it had remained under the treaty of Utrecht—though I did not give it up, but still did insist we had a right to a fuller execution of that treaty confirmed by this, and therefore I did not give it up. Yet, if that appeared to be the case, no danger or inconveniency could arise from the motion, because I was sure that I, for one, would not, and I believed that no gentleman, upon that account, would move any thing, that might occasion a rupture with France.

At the end of the debate, Lord Egmont, who made the motion, recapitulated what had been said against it. He began, by going out of his way, to say, that he must first declare, that he was sorry to differ with me; but did not agree, that it would be

be ſufficient to excuſe the Miniſtry, if 1750.
it ſhould appear, as I had ſtated it, that FEB. 5.
things remained at Dunkirk, as they were left before the war, &c. &c. I was much ſurpriſed at this, conſidering the expreſſions of his Royal Highneſs a few hours before. We were beat by a very great majority. This night was publiſhed the vileſt and moſt rancorous pamphlet againſt me, that, I believe, any age or country can ſhew; the author of it taking, by implication, the character of being in the Prince's ſervice.

6. Went to Lord Middleſex with the words (as near as I could recollect) written down, which I had uſed in the debate, and which he had heard. He agreed to them: I then deſired him to lay them before the Prince, (who was at Kew, and was to come to ſee Lady Middleſex on her miſcarrage) and in my name to complain, both of the pamphlet, and of the behaviour I met with—which he undertook. Mr. Ralph and Dr. Sharpe came after dinner; much converſation about the pamphlet,

1750. FEB. 6. which Lord Middlesex told me in the morning, the Prince had told Lady Middlesex (before he went to Kew) was sent him in a letter on Friday night: that he was much incensed at it; that he had immediately sent to Mr. Nugent, examined him upon it, and he had absolutely denied it with detestation and abhorrence: that he had questioned the Earl of Egmont upon it, who had done the same. Mr. Furnese came, who had had a conversation with Lord Baltimore of his (Lord Baltimore's) own seeking when in wine, and renewed when sober; in which that Lord declared, that there was a combination of the whole family against me; that they were, as he said, in a round Robin: that I endeavoured to govern and supplant them, that they talked of me with the utmost inveteracy: that *he* was my friend, but, however, he would keep his connections, &c. We sent Dr. Sharpe home, to stay till the Prince went away: who returned and brought us that very account, which *by mistake* I have set down before, as given to me by Lord Middlesex in the

morning;

morning; who then informed me that the Prince had had the pamphlet ſent him in a letter the Friday before, and was much incenſed at it. Lord Middleſex agreed, I ſhould ſee the Prince as ſoon as might be, after I had ſeen him in the morning. The Prince, as well as we, ſuſpected that the pamphlet might come from the Court, in order to foment and increaſe diviſions. 1750. FEB. 6.

Went to Leiceſter Houſe, after Lord Middleſex had been with me, who confirmed laſt night's account, with the addition that Lord Egmont offered his endeavours to find out the Author, &c. &c. that the Prince was ſorry for what had happened in the Houſe, but as Lord Egmont had differed from me with civility, he did not ſeem to lay much ſtreſs upon it. It being late and publick day, I ſent in a note to the Prince, to know when he would honour me with an hour's converſation—he appointed me the next day, at ſeven o'clock, at Carleton Houſe. Mr. Herbert preſented as Lord Lieutenant of Wiltſhire. 7.

1750. Feb. 8. Saw Mr. Ralph and Mr. Furnese, asked the latter, if in charging the combination of the family against me, I might put it in proof, from the conversation between him and Lord Baltimore; but I could not persuade him to assent to it. I sent Mr. Ralph to Lord Middlesex, to know if I might take notice to the Prince, of a circumstance which he told me yesterday morning, and *which I have omitted*, which was, that the Prince had dropped, that Lord Baltimore had had a conversation with Mr. Furnese, who was very warm. He sent me word, that he thought it would be improper. At six o'clock the Prince sent me word, that he was just returned from Kew, and found that the Princess had appointed Comte Flemming and his Lady to be at Carleton House at seven, and therefore feared he should not have time to dine and see me; but desired I would come the next day at seven.

N. B. Just upon one o'clock this day, two very great and very distinct shocks of

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an earthquake were felt in Pall Mall, at the diſtance of ſome ſeconds. 1750. FEB. 8.

Went to the Houſe: Mr. Edward Walpole's Bill paſſed without oppoſition. After dinner went to Carleton Houſe; juſt as I came thither, I was followed in by Dr. Lee, who brought old Coram with propoſitions for a vagabond Hoſpital. I was told that the Prince had aſked for me ſeveral times; I was immediately called in: I told the Prince, that Dr. Lee was in the houſe, and that I did not wiſh to make him wait: he pretended, that he had forgot he had been long appointed to bring Coram on that day, but that he would go out to him, and that they were to go up to the Princeſs. I ſaw that his Royal Highneſs had ſent for him on purpoſe, and therefore ſaid, that I had nothing to ſay to him, but what I ſhould be glad that Dr. Lee ſhould hear. He went out to them, and after a ſhort ſtay ſent them up. He returned and began to talk about the earthquake, which converſation I continued a little, when I aſked, if the Doctor was 9.

to

1750. FEB. 9. to come down—he ſaid, Yes. When the Doctor came, I ſuffered the diſcourſe to continue general, to ſee if he meant only, to give the Doctor the opportunity of making a civil viſit. But, at laſt, his Royal Highneſs applying to me, ſaid, he thought I had ſomething to ſay to him: this, by the Doctor's not moving, made it plain; and therefore I began by ſaying, that I ſhould not have preſumed to aſk that favour, yet it was a very particular pleaſure to me, that he was ſo good as to admit Dr. Lee to be preſent, and to hear what I had to lay before his Royal Highneſs. That I muſt, in the firſt place, return my moſt humble thanks for the indignation he had expreſſed againſt the vile and rancorous pamphlet, which had been publiſhed againſt me, &c. He ſaid that, as ſoon as it was ſent to him, he ſaw that it was deſigned to perſonate Mr. Nugent—that he immediately ſent for him, who denied every part of it with the utmoſt abhorrence—that Lord Egmont did the ſame, &c.—juſt as Lord Middleſex related. I replied, that I had never thought ſo baſely of either of them

as

as to ſuſpect them: that if I had been ſo injurious to either, yet, after ſo ſolemn a denial before the higheſt tribunal, their maſter, their Prince, near being their King, every trace, or thought of ſuch a ſuſpicion muſt be for ever entirely laid out of the queſtion: but that it was evident that the character aſſumed, was of one of the family. Dr. Lee ſaid, he had never heard of it, till laſt Wedneſday, and, as he deteſted all things of that nature, had not yet ſeen it, and believed, he never ſhould. The Prince ſaid, every body was infamouſly abuſed: he and his father had been often ſo; that it would do me no hurt, &c. I told him that I was very unfortunate, if I explained myſelf ſo ill, as to be thought to complain of the pamphlet further than as it injured his ſervice; that I had hitherto, I thought, mentioned it, only as a ground to return him my moſt humble thanks for his generous interpoſition, without being applied to: but that I now begg'd to make another plain and evident uſe of it.

1750.
FEB. 9.

1750. Feb. 9. That though it was now beyond question, that this libel did not proceed from any of his family, yet, it was as much beyond question, that the behaviour of many of his family had given the author ground to suppose, that the assumed character might pass for the real one; and that it was evidently meant, to fix the charge of my intrusion into the family, and their detestation of me, to create differences, if there were none, and to publish and inflame them, if there were. That to this fact, thus plainly proved by the pamphlet, I would add another, which I thought very unfortunate to myself. That I knew how disagreeable it was, to bring gentlemen head to head, and that I foresaw, his Royal Highness would not like to admit it. But that I could prove (though now I chose to do it by reason only, and collateral facts) that there was, I did not know what to call it, an opinion, a resolution among the gentlemen his servants and followers (excepting Dr. Lee, whom they nominally excepted) to look upon me as an improper and unprofitable servant, and would

would not unite or communicate with me. 1750.
That I knew this to be true, and looked Feb. 9.
upon it as a great misfortune to me; because, though it did not become me to ſay before his Royal Highneſs how I came into his family, yet I certainly embraced, with the utmoſt pleaſure, the opportunity of belonging, as a ſervant, to a Prince, whom of all mankind I ſhould have wiſhed to have paſſed my life with; if his misfortune and the misfortune of the public had placed him in a private ſtation. That the diſappointment of ſo flattering a view was the more ſenſible; becauſe I was ſure, it muſt ariſe from ſome fault, and that no ſmall fault; becauſe, after what had ſo lately paſſed at the other end of the Mall (St. James's) and the lively ſenſe his Royal Highneſs had expreſſed of it, I could not, and did not imagine, that any man, or body of men, would be hardy enough to combine, to preſcribe to him whom he ſhould employ, to what degree, or in what manner. This, as I knew it would, fired him, and though till this, he had kept the moſt profound ſilence, he now interrupted

1750. rupted me, and ſaid, nobody ſhould pre-
Feb. 9. tend to do that by him; that he allowed, ſometimes, one, and ſometimes another to lay their opinions before him, but nobody preſumed to direct him, and appealed to Dr. Lee, if any one treated him in that manner, &c. &c. I replied that I had ſaid ſo, and underſtood it ſo, and that made this treatment the more ſenſible, becauſe I was ſure it muſt proceed from ſome fault of mine; which I begged to be acquainted with, for it plainly appeared that the diſlike to me was real.

That I muſt now proceed to another thing, which I once thought a moſt certain fact, but which I had ſince found was grounded on a miſtake; that I was about to ſay, that his Royal Highneſs a little contributed to lead me into that miſtake, by telling me, when he was moſt graciouſly pleaſed to command my ſervices, that all his family, as well as himſelf, were deſirous of it. That I had heard the ſame, indeed, on all hands, and ſome of the moſt conſiderable had themſelves, long, often, and

and with great zeal aſſured me of their warmeſt deſires, and had even taken credit to themſelves, for having earneſtly preſſed his Royal Highneſs to call me to that honour, which they now thought me ſo unworthy of. That, therefore, I begged they might be aſked, fairly and openly, what was the reaſon of ſo total an alteration, as well as ſo ſudden an one: for I had thought, that I perceived a difference, even before we came to town, the laſt time, from Cliefden. That, as to arrogance and ſufficiency, and deſign to govern his Royal Highneſs and them, which I ſuppoſed had been plentifully inculcated; I begged (and I was glad to do it before the Doctor) he would be pleaſed to declare firſt as to himſelf, if I had fatigued him with audiences, or had laid hold of the many other opportunities I had, to obtrude my own thoughts upon him, or to know his; to complain to him, that he did not communicate what he was doing to me, and take my opinions, or to preſume to expoſtulate with him, or blame what he had done for not communicating with me.

1750. Feb. 9.

He

1750. He ſaid, No indeed, but twice, as he re-
FEB. 9. membered—once, was about a paper I had drawn to lay before him, and the other time, when the printer of the Remembrancer was taken up. I put him in mind, that, at that time, I mentioned to him the alteration I obſerved in his ſervants, which was ſo long ago as laſt November. I then aſked if, in the many leiſure hours of private life, I had ever ſpoken ill of any one of them, or ſo much as complained, or endeavoured to leſſen or depreciate them or their performances. He ſaid; No: but to be ſure I did not expreſs any partiality to ſchemes which I did not approve of—(but he did not anſwer ſo fully and fairly upon this head, as the truth is). I then ſaid, I would not deſire his Royal Highneſs to declare if thoſe gentlemen had treated me with the ſame fairneſs—as I was ſure he would anſwer that to himſelf. As to the governing them, did I ever interfere with them? they formed their own buſineſs, their papers, their own motions, without the leaſt communication with, or complaint from me: that I was

ſorry

1750. Feb. 9.

ſorry for it as they made me a uſeleſs ſervant to him in Parliament; for that it was impoſſible for me to go thither, and follow their motions at ſight and at hearing, and then to be diſowned for my pains. He laughed, and ſaid, it was becauſe they had nothing to communicate; they had done nothing that he knew of. The mutiny bill was an agreed point by all, and they had had nothing elſe. That as to the Dunkirk motion, he proteſted it was a thought of his own, that Dr. Lee knew nothing of it, even when he ſent it to me by Lord Middleſex. I replied, that, in a converſation, the grounds of which were my misfortune in being rendered uſeleſs to a maſter, whoſe unmerited goodneſs and favour were my ſole ambition and reliance, it was impoſſible that I could change them ſo groſsly, as to be brought to complain or to ſuffer him for a ſingle moment to think, that I did complain of him. That I received the communication he had honoured me with, as a mark of his favour, with much reſpect: that what I ſpoke of was the non-communication,

 and

1750. Feb. 9. and disavowal of the rest of his servants, both in the mutiny bill and on another occasion. He said, that as to punishing mutiny with death, he must own to me that he, as well as they, differed from me, and had accordingly acted last year: and that Lords Carlisle and Bathurst had differed with Lord Bath upon that clause; for which he appealed to Dr. Lee, who said he was confined by illness (as was I) from coming to the House. As to what happened upon the motion, he was sorry for it, but thought it was of no great importance. I said, with some warmth, that I thought it was of the highest importance to him: was it to pass for his sense, was *he* to appear in the light of declaring, that he would, if he were now King, or would force his father, to begin a new broil with France, at this time, in these circumstances of this country, because fifteen months after such a war ended by such a peace, France had not carried the demolition of Dunkirk, farther than it had been carried for thirty-two years last past? Was this a point to be maintained? Was it a doc-

trine

trine fit for him to appear as the promoter of? I thought it was not; it was imprudent, it could not be supported, and, above all, most prejudicial to his service, to have it thought he gave ear to such rash counsels: besides, that his Royal Highness had agreed with me, the last thing he said to me that very morning, that in the above-mentioned case, if it came out only so, the long acquiescence much lessened, if it did not take away the objection. I beg'd pardon for being warm about the consequence of the doctrine, because that was not the use I intended to make of it; what I meant to establish by it, was, to prove a settled resolution in his family, that they would have nothing to do with me, for when Mr. Pitt, who answered Lord Egmont, came to that part, he pressed his argument thus: "If it should come out, that there is no innovation, as I verily believe, the truth is, and that it is, as it was left by the treaty of Utrecht, explained in 1717, will any man say that it is a crime in the Ministry, or a reason to quarrel with France? will any

1750. FEB. 9.

1750. any gentleman ſay it? does any one ſay it?"
FEB. 9. To this his Lordſhip made no reply in affirmation of what he had laid down in contradiction to me, which proves to a demonſtration, that he went out of his way, in concert with thoſe in conjunction with him, to ſhew the world by a publick diſavowal, that they diſclaimed all concert and connection with me: whether that was for *his* ſervice, he beſt knew. I beg'd to be underſtood, that, in all I had ſaid, my concern was only in relation to his ſervice; if he was ſatisfied, I was. I deſired to govern nobody, to ſupplant nobody: but that I could not follow his family in publick, in whatever they pleaſed to ſtart; that in things I was not conſulted about, where my advice and opinion was neither taken, nor even aſked, I could not go down and appear to approve and ſupport: that I was ſorry it rendered my ſervices uſeleſs to him in the Houſe of Commons, but I could not put myſelf upon that footing: he ſaid, to be ſure it was not to be expected from me, or to that effect. I replied, that was very well; I

was

was perfectly ſatisfied, if he was. I then began to put him in mind, that I had not been idle; that I had thought both of the point of Dunkirk, and of Nova Scotia; and had looked into ſeveral things, that might be introductive to the publick accounts; and had, above a month ago, hinted ſomething of it to Dr. Lee, and told him that I hoped for his aſſiſtance. [This the Doctor readily confirmed.] That it might go far, and affect ſeveral families; whether his Royal Highneſs would care to go ſo far, he would be the beſt judge. That when I had thought upon any point, in which I could ſee day-light, after I had digeſted it a little, I choſe to lay it before a friend or two in the firſt place; if then we liked it, and could give it a body, we ſhould then lay it before his Royal Highneſs for his approbation: if it met with that, then, and not till then, I ſhould think of communicating it to thoſe, who were chiefly to aſſiſt in the execution of it. That this might be governing, for ought I knew; but that this was the way of doing buſineſs which I had

1750. FEB. 9.

 learnt,

1750. learnt, and indeed, that I had never known
FEB. 9. any other practised.

They both laughed and said, to be sure it was not governing, and was the only way of transacting business. I replied, it was the only way I knew, and it might be governing; but if it was, his Royal Highness would please to observe, that I had not done even that, yet. I then observed to him, how extremely hard it was for a minority, to bring any considerable, national abuse, into absolute, undeniable proof, all the offices and documents being in the hands of the Court; and I desired him to look back through all the oppositions for forty years past, saying, that I could recollect but one, that was brought home and fixed upon the Ministry, which was this very point of Dunkirk:' and this his Royal Highness readily agreed to.

This, to the best of my memory, was the most, if not all the material part that passed. The conversation became general for a time, and then his Royal Highness called

called for a chair, and left Dr. Lee and me together. 1750. Feb. 9.

When we were alone, I told the Doctor that I knew there was a combination against me; that I could prove it, and they knew I could prove it: but that since I had had an opportunity of explaining myself fully to his Royal Highness, in the presence of so good a witness as himself, I was entirely indifferent as to the event. The Doctor assured me, in a seeming friendly, and warm manner, that he should always be glad to act with me, in every thing that might be for the service of the Prince, and the utility of the country. I thanked him properly, and desired him to remember, that I had desired, and even insisted with, the Prince, to declare if ever, or at any time, or in what, I had ever attempted to govern him, or complained, that I did not; adding, that possibly I might have had such an idea, might have attempted it, might have miscarried, and been reprimanded for it, and might have grown wiser: but if I had done it at all, I should scarcely have chal-

1750. FEB. 9. lenged the Prince, before him, to declare it. The next thing I beg'd him to remember was, that I had fully apprized the Prince, that in what I was not consulted about and advised with, I would have nothing to do with in Parliament, and that I would not go down thither upon that footing, and so we parted.

I desired Mr. Ralph, whom I found at my house, to go to Mr. Furnese's immediately, and from thence send to Lord Middlesex for leave to wait upon him with an account of this whole transaction.

11. I saw Lord Middlesex for a moment before I went to court. He told me that the Prince came to his house directly from me on Friday night. That he was very thoughtful, and endeavoured to shake it off, but could not; so that any one might see, that something lay heavy upon his mind, which he could not get quit of. That Mr. Ralph had acquainted him with what had passed, and that, last night, the Prince and Princess came to Lady Middle-

sex,

fex, who had not been out fince her mif- 17[illegible].
carriage, and ftaid late. That, then, it Feb. 11.
came all out. That according to Mr. Ralph's relation, the Prince faid but little: but according to his own, his Royal Highnefs made himfelf a great fpeaker. That he had convinced me about the mutiny bill. That I mentioned a combination to govern him, but that nobody durft enter into fuch a combination. That I did not fay there was fuch a thing, or he would not have fuffered me to go on: and then, what he would do to thofe, who fhould prefume to enter into fuch a thing!—in fhort, he feemed to laugh it off, and that now all things would go well again, &c. But he again mentioned the converfation between Mr. Furnefe and Lord Baltimore of laft Tuefday. Lord Baltimore contrived to fee him as foon as he came from Kew, and before he went to Lord Middlefex's, and reprefented that converfation, as preffed upon him by Mr. Furnefe, at my requeft, and that he had talked very high of me, if not from me; and that I complained that he (his Royal Highnefs) beg'd and preffed

me

1750. Feb. 11. me to come into his ſervice, for that he could not do without me, &c. &c. I aſked if I might make uſe of this overture to have the matter explained. He ſaid, he was afraid not, it being ſaid in confidence. I then aſked, that in caſe Mr. Furneſe would tell him the whole converſation, if he would relate it to the Prince fully and fairly, and fix the lye where it belonged. He ſaid, he could do that very well, by telling the Prince, that he was much ſurpriſed, when he firſt heard him mention that converſation, but more ſo, to find that he mentioned it again; and therefore had contrived, in talking together, to draw out of Mr. Furneſe, the particular account of it, which he would tell him literally, and beg, that, for his farther ſatisfaction, he would ſend for Mr. Furneſe to give him an account of it, who, he was ſure, was a man of honour, and would tell him the whole truth. I went to Leiceſter houſe, and was very well received. Sent to Mr. Furneſe to ſee him to-morrow.

Mr.

Mr. Furnese came: I read to him what passed on Friday, and told him what Lord Middlesex had heard from the Prince again, about the turn which Lord Baltimore had given to the conversation between them; which he again declared to be most false, and that he was ready to declare it to the Prince, if his Royal Highness was pleased to send for him. Intelligence from H. V. of the very great dissensions between the Ministers. 1750. FEB. 12.

Saw Lord Middlesex. We agreed that he should (as indeed it was hardly to be avoided) take up this matter again with the Prince, and tell him that I had given him an account of it. That I was most grateful for his grace and condescension, in giving me so full and patient an audience—that, I hoped, I had not behaved improperly. That upon the whole, though he was my friend, yet he thought the Prince should, for his future quiet, go to the bottom of this affair. Every one had their faults—I might be vain—I might be high—and yet mean very well, and be made 13.

1750. made very useful. He did not mean to
Feb. 13. push things to extremities. If I had pressed indecently upon his Royal Highness, or into his affairs, where I was not called: though it was true, that I had not intruded into his family, yet, if I had talked impertinently and vainly about it, of being begged and prayed, and that his Royal Highness could not do without me—why, it was no heinous fault, but he thought I should be gently made to feel the impropriety of such a behaviour, by a word from his Royal Highness, or from him in his name. But it imported his Highness to be sure the charge was true, and to give me an opportunity of justifying myself; otherwise, the party was not equal, his Royal Highness having heard but one side. If, on the contrary, it should turn out false; was it not highly necessary, that he should know, what sort of people he had about him? That conversation, for instance, which his Royal Highness had twice mentioned, and of which he had great doubts in his mind, was not justly represented to his Royal Highness; would

his Royal Highneſs give him leave to tell me of it, that I might go to the bottom of it? or (what would be better) would he ſend for Mr. Furneſe, and let him give a full account of it, without ever mentioning to any body, that he had been queſtioned by his Royal Highneſs. This the Prince might keep in his own breaſt, and not let it go any farther. His (Lord Middleſex's) intention not being to go to any extremity, but only that his Royal Highneſs might know the perſons he employed; and not reject any one for a few faults, that might be uſeful in many things; nor truſt, without reſerve, any perſon, who, though uſeful in ſome things, and fit to be employed, may be dangerous in others, and ſhould cautiouſly be guarded againſt. That he ſhould tell his Royal Highneſs that I complained, that after having ſat down quiet under a falſehood which Lord Egmont laid to my charge, of telling Cary what paſſed between his Royal Highneſs and me, at Kew, when he took me into his ſervice (which I could prove, even by Cary himſelf, who was told it by Lord Egmont)

1750. Feb. 13.

1750. Feb. 13. Egmont)—after having acquiesced so long under that imputation, rather than hurt that Lord, or occasion any, the least disquiet, in the family, that I did not expect such a return. These points, Lord Middlesex agrees, are right, and he will undertake them.

14. At Leicester House, but went away before the Princess came out. After dinner, I went to see Dr. Lee, who received me with much apparent openness. We talked much about what the Prince's conduct ought to be, in case, under their present undoubted quarrels and disunion, either part of the Administration should apply to him for assistance. The conversation was begun by him, and we, both, agreed that, unless they would restore the King to his family by a thorough reconciliation; and to his People, by some popular acts, the Prince should not engage with any of them. And we neither thought them honest or able enough to bring about such great events, and we agreed in wishing, that no such application would be made.

Mr.

Mr. Henley was with me, who did not think Mr. Lascelles's Privy Seal sufficient for a separate point: he asked me how things went; I told him, but indifferently. That I had no communication with the other gentlemen in our family, and that they were united against me—he treated them very slightly, and said that indeed he had had offers enough to be of their meetings, but had declined them, not thinking himself *little* enough to follow any body there—that they generally shewed him their motions either in the house or elsewhere. I said, even that did not happen to me; that, therefore, I was determined not to meddle with any thing, where my opinion was neither asked nor taken. That if the Prince liked their method of proceeding, I was perfectly satisfied: but I would not put myself upon that foot in publick. That I would do every thing in my power, spare no expence, no complaisance, nor chearful concurrence in all his pleasures, to make myself an agreeable servant, as long as I had the honour to belong to him; but that, in his publick 1750. Feb. 25.

busineſs

1750. business I would never intrude myself;
FEB. 25. and that it was impossible for me to follow those gentlemen, though I did not, in the least, desire to govern them: This, as well as I can remember, was all material that I said. He said much more of them, blaming them without reserve for their self-sufficiency, &c. that they were informed of nothing at bottom, but dealt only in invectives, and in that, not very well: perpetual imputation and suspicion, without being able to make out any thing, which would, if encouraged, make all government impracticable. He was displeased with Dr. Lee, for not telling him, that he was to have the seals, as our Chancellor, if Sir T. Bootle had died. Said that Lord Baltimore forced him to ask the Prince for them, who told him that he most sincerely wished to oblige him, but that he had promised Dr. Lee, in case of accidents, to give him the seals, and that Lord Baltimore was present, when the promise was made—which usage he took very ill (and I think justly) of Baltimore, who, when he pressed him to ask for the seals,

feals, had affured him that he knew the 1750.
Prince would gladly grant them to him— FEB. 25.
with much more of this fort. I went to Leicefter Houfe, where was Mr. Henley. Lord Egmont came and immediately took Mr. Henley into a private room, where they had a converfation of near an hour. This furprifed me much. In the afternoon I met their Royal Highneffes by order at Lady Middlefex's, where came Madam de Munchaufen and Mr. Breton: we went in our own coaches to a fortune-teller's who was young Des Noyers, difguifed and inftructed to furprife Madame de Munchaufen, which he effectually did. I had fome talk with Lady Middlefex, who was very dejected and full of complaints at the encouragement the party met with, that was united againft us. From the fortune-teller's we went to fupper at Carleton Houfe.

Lords Bute, Inchiquin, and Bathurft, Meffrs. Mafham, Breton, and I, followed their Royal Highneffes, Ladies Middlefex

1750. FEB. 26. and Howe, to dinner at Kew. Mr. Bludworth was with us.

27. Worked in the new walk at Kew.

28. All of us, men, women, and children, worked at the ſame place---a cold dinner.

MAR. 4. Went to meet Sir Francis Daſhwood, Lord Middleſex, and Mr. Furneſe, at Mr. Ralph's: we went through ſeveral points of buſineſs, and determined to proceed.

8. The election for the county of Middleſex. Sir Francis Daſhwood, Meſſrs. Furneſe, Breton, and I went in Sir Francis's coach, at eight o'clock, to Mr. Cooke's in Lincoln's Inn Fields---A great meeting there---We ſet out with him about nine (my coach following), and went through Knightſbridge, Kenſington, by the gravel pits to Acton, and from thence to Stanwell Heath, which was the general rendezvous. From thence to Brentford Butts, which was the place of poll. It began

about one. I polled early and got to my 1750. coach, which was fo wedged in, that, MAR. 8. after much delay, I found it impoffible to make ufe of it; fo that Mr. Breton and I were forced to take two of my fervants' horfes, with livery houfings, and ride, without boots, ten miles to Lord Middlefex's at Walton, to meet their Royal Highneffes at dinner. We got thither by five o'clock, and found them attended by Lord Inchiquin and Mr. Bludworth in the park. Dined at fix. My coach did not arrive till nine. We all came away between ten and eleven—arrived in town about one. Poll for Mr. Cooke 1617—for Mr. Honywood 1201. We carried it by 416.

Went to the Houfe, where it was agreed 9. to augment the falary of the Mafter of the Rolls, and it was refolved that the augmentation fhould be 1200*l. per ann.* Yefterday, at three quarters after five in the morning exactly, was a violent fhock of an earthquake.

I had much talk with Lady Middlefex, 18.

1750. Mar. 18. and we agreed in opinion as to the disagreeableneſs and impropriety of our ſituation, but that we muſt go on this ſummer, as well as we can.

Apr. 11. Council at St. James's—King preſent—Regency named—We all kiſſed hands and took leave.

12. Went to the Houſe of Lords. The King ſpoke, and prorogued the Parliament.

16. The King went to Harwich. The wind changed to N. E.

22. Mr. Drax, who was ill of the gout, ſent to deſire to ſpeak to me. I went, and he told me, that petitions had been obtained from the miners in Cornwall, for the holding a tin parliament. That they were referred to the Prince's privy council, who had rejected them, under a perſuaſion that there was a job at bottom. That the Prince was ſo far in it, that, notwithſtanding the diſapprobation of his council, he had ordered

dered a privy ſeal to be made out, to the Lord Warden of the Stanneries, to call and hold a parliament on or before the ſecond of November. 1750. Apr. 22.

That the nature of the Prince's revenue upon tin, was as follows—All tin, which is raiſed throughout the dutchy of Cornwall, muſt be brought to the Prince's ſmelting-houſe, and when ſmelted, pays four ſhillings for every hundred weight (which is 120*l.*). Then, when made into pigs, it goes to the coinage, which is only a ſtamp, with the Prince's arms; and then, and not before, it is marketable.

Beſides this duty of four ſhillings *per* hundred weight throughout the dutchy, no tin can be diſpoſed of, till the Duke has taken the quantity he pleaſes. This is called the preemption. This preemption has never been exerciſed by Princes, and ſeldom leaſed out. Once it was undertaken by Queen Anne, and Lord Treaſurer Godolphin, and Mr. Boſcawen (afterward Viſcount Falmouth) on the other part:

 by

1750. Apr. 22. by which, for the preſent exigence, the Crown got the power in ſeveral boroughs, though they loſt by the undertaking, which was occaſioned by the war. This leaſe was again renewed by the ſucceeding adminiſtration, but I believe it was not carried into execution. The leaſe muſt be granted by an act of the parliament of the tinners, which parliament is called and held by a privy ſeal to the lord warden for that purpoſe.

The dutchy is divided into four diſtricts, each of which ſends ſix members. The voters muſt be freeholders. They chuſe a ſpeaker, &c.

The quantity of tin raiſed annually, at an average of many years paſt, is 2200 tons: the market price to the exporter from 4*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.* per hundred weight; ſo that the Prince's revenue upon that head amounts to about 8,800*l.* *per ann.* clear of all deductions, as there are other ſmall duties that defray the charge of officers, collection, &c. N. B. The conſumption is

is much less, and the freight dearer in time of war; but then, as the commodity is necessary, the vent is proportionably increased, the first years of peace. 1750. APR. 22.

Last year, the two companies of mine adventurers, and mine battery, both petitioned the Prince for the lease of this preemption, the petitions were referred to his privy council and rejected. They offered his Royal Highness an advance on his revenue of 1200*l.* *per ann.* and a loan of 10,000*l.* at 5 *per cent.* without insuring his life, which he is obliged to do, at 5 *per cent.* additional, on all he borrows.

This not succeeding, a petition has lately been obtained from the tinners, praying for a parliament, which was, as I have said, rejected by the council; who supposed it was meant to procure a lease, for the advantage of those, who were at the bottom of the former offers, which were so very disproportionate, that nothing but gross imposition could be expected from that quarter. The persons concerned,

1750. APR. 22. were ſuppoſed, by Mr. Drax, to be Mr. Thomas Pitt and Dr. Ayſcough.

To ſhew the impropriety of the proceeding, and the danger of the job, Mr. Drax obſerved that this parliament, though it could do no act without the Prince's aſſent, yet it might come to ſeveral reſolutions, which might be diſagreeable to ſubmit to, and yet inconvenient to break through. He then proceeded to ſtate the advantages of the leaſe of preemption, which, from what he apprehends, the Prince is not properly apprized of.

The offer, laſt year, he ſtated at an advance of 1700*l. per ann.*—1200*l.* annually, and the loan of 10,000*l.* at 5 *per cent.* at 500*l. per ann.* becauſe the Prince muſt pay 5 *per cent.* additional elſewhere, for inſuring his life.

He ſaid, that he is well aſſured, that the tinners are ready to agree, and contractors to engage to take all the tin that ſhall be coined at 3*l.* 5*s. per* hundred weight, and to avoid the clamour of a monopoly, they

will oblige themselves to sell it at 4*l.* 5*s.* which is below the market price. The gross gain, then, of 1*l.* *per* hundred weight, upon 2200 tons, is, *per ann.* £. 44,000 0 0 1750. Apr. 22.

The money to be employed for 2200 tons, at 3*l.* 5*s.* *per* ton, is 143,000*l.* and supposing half this sum always employed at credit, you must deduct for interest - - - - - - -	2,860 0 0
Charges of management, freight, &c. - - - - - -	3,000 0 0
There then remains against risque and accidents a clear and net profit, *per ann.* - - -	38,140 0 0

These calculations, he said, were right: he does not know what is at the bottom of this, nor what offers have or will be made; but by what is passed, he is very suspicious, and earnestly desired me to dissuade his Royal Highness, if possible, from it; though he knew it would be very difficult, because he was sure, they lured him to it by shewing to him new acquisitions in the Cornish elections.

We

1750. APR. 30. We went to Kew for the whole week. Their Royal Highneſſes, Ladies Middleſex and Howe; Lords Bute and Inchiquin; Meſſrs. Maſham, Breton and I. We had plays acted every evening.

MAY 13. About eleven o'clock, the Prince ſent to me to come to Leiceſter Houſe as ſoon as I could. I arrived there in half an hour's time. I found the Groom in waiting, and the Biſhop of Oxford. The Prince ſoon joined us, and ſaid that the Princeſs had been ill ſince three in the morning: by this time the Duke of Chandois, and Lords Egmont and North, Meſſrs. Cuſt and Breton were come. We went into the bed-chamber at three quarters after eleven. The Grooms withdrew. We found in the bed-chamber Ladies Middleſex, Berkely, Irwin and Howe; Lady Bailey, Mrs. Cornwall and Payne. The midwife upon the bed with the Princeſs, and Dr. Wilmot ſtanding by.

Juſt at half paſt twelve, ſhe was delivered of a Prince, without once complaining or groaning the whole time. Then the Prince, the

the Ladies, and ſome of us ſat down to breakfaſt in the next room—then went to prayers below ſtairs. The Prince wrote to the King, and the Duke of Bedford came for the letter. A numerous drawing-room, where appeared all the Miniſters and perſons in the chief employments. The Miniſters were not ſent for to the labour. The Prince put off the publick dinner and ſervants in waiting, and ordered me to dine with him in private at Carleton Houſe. 1750. May 13

The Prince's publick table (which laſts about ten days on account of the Princeſs's lying-in) began on Monday. 16.

I went to town, and ſpent three hours in examining the tin affair, which appears to be a ſcandalous job, and I am determined to go to the bottom of it. Waited on the Duke of Dorſet about Prince Henry's bathing in the ſea, at Walmer Caſtle. 23.

I ſettled with the Duke of Dorſet, that Prince 25.

1750. MAY 25. Prince Henry ſhould not go to Walmer, as it was a garriſon, and as the King's leave was to be aſked.

28. Had a converſation with Mr. Drake about the tin.

30. Went to Leiceſter Houſe. The Archbiſhop and Chancellor ſent for, to ſettle the chriſtening of the young Prince, the King having ſent no orders from Hanover, though applied to. Lord Middleſex, Meſſrs. Furneſe, Bance, and Drake met at my houſe, to conſult farther about the tin affair.

JUNE 1. Meſſrs. Kelſal and Lovel came to me. Lovel ſays that the miner brings, what is called, black tin to the ſmelting-houſe, and delivers it by weight, and receives ſo much white tin at the coinage (which is quarterly) and takes a tin bill for it (if he is poor) as the bill is marketable. He promiſed to inform himſelf farther.

8. The Princeſs ſaw company from ſeven till

till nine o'clock, for the firſt time, and once only. The family went in, before any of the company were admitted. 1750. June 8.

14. Mr. Aldworth came from the Duke of Bedford, with diſpatches from Hanover, ſignifying the King's approbation that Prince George, Lady Auguſta, and a brother of the Princeſs ſhould be ſponſors for the young Prince. Biſhop of Oxford ſent for.

17. Went to Leiceſter Houſe. The child was chriſtened by the Biſhop of Oxford. The ſponſors as above. Prince George gave the name, which was Frederick William. No body of either ſex was admitted into the room but the actual ſervants, except the Lord Chief Juſtice Willes and Sir Luke Schaub.

18. Lord Middleſex and Mr. Drake were with me; we had much talk about the Prince's tin, and the ſcandalous tranſaction about it, which was encouraged by ſome of his ſervants. Drake thinks a vaſt

1750. profit may arise from farming it, both to
JUNE 18. the Prince and to the farmer, who would give him 200,000*l.* by way of fine. I think little or nothing can be given or got: but to get rid of Drake, and please Lord Middlesex, who seemed to lean a little towards him, I left it thus—That if any creditable man, or body of men, would take the best lease the Prince can give of his tin, reserving to his Royal Highness his four shillings *per* hundred weight (120*l.*) to be raised and collected with the same dignity and royal prerogative, as it now is: oblige themselves to pay to the miner, or owner, 3*l.* 5*s.* *per* 100, at 112 weight: bind themselves never to raise the price of tin above three shillings *per* 112 weight, higher than the market price shall be at the time of signing the lease: and to deliver all that is raised, at or below that price. If for a seven years lease, containing these conditions, they will pay to his Royal Highness, by way of fine, 100,000*l.* sterling, without any reprises or deduction, he will make them such a lease,

as ſhall be a ſufficient ſecurity for them to undertake the farm upon. 1750. June 18.

Went to Leiceſter Houſe. Lord Mayor and Aldermen came to compliment the Princeſs upon her lying-in. Letters from Hanover, with orders that thoſe Knights of the Garter, who did not walk, ſhould chooſe their own proxies. The Prince deſigns Lord Inchiquin for Prince George's proxy. 20.

I met Mr. Vanneck, jun. by appointment at Lord Middleſex's, about the Prince's tin. We had two hours converſation, the reſult of which is among my papers relating to that matter. But, upon the whole, if he was to take all that is raiſed, with a liberty to advance the price 5 *per cent.* he could give no more than 66*s.* *per* hundred weight; ſo that ſuppoſing the tinners would be contented to bind themſelves to the preſent market price of 64*s.* (which, I think, they would not) the whole gain to the Prince would be 2*s.* *per* 100 weight, or 2*l.* a ton; which upon 25.

1570. upon 2500 tons (the quantity ſuppoſed to
JUNE 25. be annually raiſed) amounts to 5000*l.* *per ann.*

28. Lady Middleſex, Lord Bathurſt, Mr. Breton, and I waited on their Royal Highneſſes to Spitalfields, to ſee the manufactory of ſilk, and to Mr. Carr's ſhop in the morning. In the afternoon, the ſame company with Lady Torrington in waiting, went in private coaches to Norwood Foreſt to ſee a ſettlement of gypſies. We returned and went to Betteſworth, the conjurer, in hackney coaches—Not finding him, we went in ſearch of the little Dutchman, but were diſappointed; and concluded the particularities of this day, by ſupping with Mrs. Cannon, the Princeſs's midwife.

29. I had a long converſation with Mr. Ralph about the proſecution intended againſt his paper.

JULY 2. Mr. Furneſe, Mr. Ralph, and I dined with Mr. Oſwald at Wandſworth. We had

had much talk upon publick affairs. Re- 1750. July 2.
ſolved at my return to meet and prepare for parliamentary enquiry, ſuch points as ſhould appear moſt liable to cenſure; particularly to look into the grounds of Mr. Laſcelles's quietus by privy ſeal: the expenditure during the war: the management of the ordnance office: the affair of Nova Scotia, and the Canada expedition, &c. Mr. Oſwald was entirely diſpoſed to aſſiſt us.

Dined with Lord Talbot, who informed 3.
me of the many lies which were told of me to the Prince, and the unalterable inveteracy of the family againſt me. God forgive them—I have not deſerved it of them.

I offered Dr. Thomſon a room in my 5.
houſe, and 50*l.* *per ann.* which he accepted.

I ſent to Mr. Ralph, by Whitehead, a Aug. 1.
ſcheme of oppoſition to be communicated to Lords Middleſex and Talbot, Sir Fran-

1750. cis Dashwood, Messrs. Furnese and Os-
Aug. 1. wald.

Sept. 11. Sir Francis Dashwood told me at Wycombe what he had learned of Mr. Boone, *viz.*—that my adversaries were satisfied, that my design, when I came into the family, was to turn them all out, even to the women, &c.—that the Prince told Boone, that I forced myself into his service, and that he could not help taking me, &c.—that Lord Egmont said he knew, that the Prince never advised with, or communicated any thing to me, &c.—that Lord Egmont defrayed the Prince's expences at Bath, &c.

16. Messrs. Furnese and Ralph came to me. We had much conversation. We agreed that the Prince should, as soon as possible, be brought to some ecclaircissement, and be informed with proof, of the lies that have been told of me, by Lords Egmont and Baltimore, &c.—that otherwise I could not act in publick with them.

Went

Went to a meeting at the King's Arms Tavern, Change Alley, at eleven o'clock, about the herring fiſhery. Propoſed to chuſe the governor, &c. by liſts, which was much oppoſed by the Scotch intereſt. I argued for it, from the authority of the act of parliament, and at laſt prevailed by 19 againſt 7. 1750. Sept. 19.

I carried Mr. Ralph to Mr. Waller's in three hours. Much debate about the means of forming an oppoſition and its end: at length, Mr. Waller promiſed to act heartily with me, and we agreed to begin with the ordnance. 25.

Went to Lord Middleſex's at Aſhley. Much talk with my Lord that day and the next morning. We agreed that the country was in a deplorable ſtate, and that the ſafety of the Prince's ſucceſſion was in great danger, from the maxims he had adopted, and in which he was encouraged by thoſe he moſt attended to at preſent. It was alſo agreed, that Lord Middleſex ſhould procure an explanation, or that both 27.

1750. of us should neither meddle with, nor ap-
Sept. 27. pear in the business of the House.

30. At Leicester House. Lord Bute kissed hands for the Bed Chamber. Col. Robinson, as Equerry. The latter, as well as Lord North, is to remain under the title of servant to the Prince, but both are to attend the Princes George and Edward, as Governor and Equerry.

Nov. 4. The King landed about twelve o'clock at Harwich, and came to St. James's between ten and eleven.

18. Westminster bridge opened. Mr. Tucker and I went to Mr. Scrope's, to desire him to acquaint Mr. Pelham, that, as we supposed, when he engaged for the charter at Weymouth, he understood that he was to have two friends there, during this parliament, though no such conditions were actually expressed, yet, if Mr. Plummer should die (who was that day cut for the stone) we were too nice upon points of honour, to take the advantage of what might

might be implied, though not ſpecified, and therefore we would chuſe any unexceptionable gentleman he ſhould name. But we would not chuſe any other, or one, who, by his relations or ſituation, might ſeem to be put there, with a view to make a ſeparate intereſt. And we ſhould conſider the inſiſting upon ſuch an one, as a premeditated deſign to make war, which, when we were in the right, we were ready to begin as ſoon as he pleaſed. 1750. Nov. 18.

Mr. Tucker and I met Mr. Pelham, at Mr. Scrope's by appointment: we ſettled the Weymouth re-election, according to the agreement made, on obtaining the new charter, and he recommended Lord George Cavendiſh. Dec. 11.

Dined at Mr. Maſham's: had a long, and, I hope, a uſeful and productive conſultation all the morning, with Meſſrs. Oſwald, Furneſe, and Ralph. 31.

Renewal of the conſultation of laſt Monday, with Meſſrs. Furneſe, Oſwald, and Ralph. 1751. Jan. 7.

1751. Ralph. Some progreſs made. Supped at
JAN. 7. Lady Middleſex's. It being twelfth night (Monday) ſhe ſtaked 75 guineas and I 125 with the Prince, who ſent us word that we had loſt 8 guineas between us. Spent the week at Kew, where we had plays every day.

14. Lord Talbot joined our party at my houſe, and we made farther progreſs in buſineſs.

15. At one o'clock received orders to dine and ſleep at Kew. Ladies Middleſex and Torrington, Mr. Maſham, and I went together. Played at Farao. Lord Bathurſt came on horſeback.

16. Came to town to the drawing-room. Dined at Carleton Houſe. The Prince, Lords Granby, Middleſex, Carliſle, Egmont, Limerick, Sir John Ruſhout, Sir Thomas Bootle, Dr. Lee, Meſſrs. Bathurſt, Henley, Nugent, Gibbon, and I.

17. The ſeſſion opened. Long debate upon the

the addreſs—diviſion 74 to 203—mighty 1751.
ſimple. JAN. 17.

Lord Weſtmoreland was here. I pro- 18.
poſed a co-operation with a ſmall number of peers, which he ſeemed to approve of, and promiſed to endeavour to make it practicable.

Spent the morning in farther proſecu- 19.
tion of the buſineſs with Lord Talbot, Sir Francis Daſhwood, Meſſrs. Furneſe, Waller, Oſwald, and Ralph.

Went in private coaches with their 20.
Royal Highneſſes, Ladies Middleſex and Howe, Lord Inchiquin, and Sir Thomas Bootle, to Mr. Glaſſe's, where we ſent for a conjurer.

The Prince's birth-day kept. Dined 21.
with me Marquis de Mirepoix, General Wall, Monſ. d'Abrien, Comte de Perron, Abbé di Groſſa-teſta, Monſ. de Loſſandiere, Marquis d'Ayè, Comtes de la Mármora, and de Laſcary, Baron de St. Florent,

1751. Comté de Haslang, Duke of Queensberry,
Jan. 21. Lord Talbot, Sir Francis Dashwood, and Mr. Breton.

22. Debate upon some queries about the Army, that were dispersed abroad—agree with the Lords to burn them.

Feb. 6. Have been very ill for the fortnight past: but this day went to the House to hear the charge against Mr. Murray, brother to Lord Elibank, for words spoken against the High Bailiff, the day of his making the return for Westminster (15th of May last). After the trial was over, and the first question moved, I left the House, and returned to Hammersmith. Never saw an accusation worse supported by any thing but numbers.

11. Mr. Oswald, with other friends, was with me, who treated me in the most affectionate and friendly manner: told me all his views, and the offers that had been made to him, and concluded by saying, that he wished to act always with me, and

that

that he would accept of the Prince's ſer- 1751. vice, if he might come into it as my friend, FEB. 11. and by and through my hands, but that he would not come in by any other hands or canal.

Went to wait on his Royal Highneſs at 12. Kew—propoſed to him the ſecuring Mr. Oſwald by my weight with him—the Prince heſitated a little, as having made a trial, ſome time ago, by another hand without ſucceſs. At laſt he allowed the importance of the acquiſition, and ordered me to ſound Mr. Oſwald's diſpoſition towards it—his Royal Highneſs ordered me to dine and ſleep there.

Mr. Oſwald dined with me, and agreed 13. to come to Hammerſmith the next morning, to ſettle what report I ſhould make to the Prince.

Mr. Oſwald came this morning, and was 15. pleaſed to put himſelf entirely into my hands, and to rely upon my friendſhip.

1751. Feb. 16. Dr. Lee came to me. I talked over to him, at large, the points of the Spanish treaty—Mr. Lascelles's privy seal—the ordnance contract—and the expedition—He seemed to approve of them, and I gave him several papers to look over at home. He told me very frankly that, whatever I proposed, he would chearfully support with all his power in the debate; but as he was enjoined secrecy, he could not be the mover or seconder, because that would look like breaking short with Lord Egmont, and with others he had acted with.

17. Dr. Lee returned my papers, and thought that the treaty would not be a point strong enough, but he approved of the others.

23. Had a conference with his Royal Highness, and I began with telling him, that on Monday Mr. Oswald was with me, to acquaint me that he had received positive offers from Court; he was surprised, and asked me what they were; I told him that though, as I owed my first duty to him,

him, I ought not to conceal any thing from him that related to his ſervice; yet that there were alſo other duties that I held ſacred, and if I ſhould diſcover the ſecret of a friend to him, I hoped his Royal Highneſs would be pleaſed to promiſe me that it ſhould go no farther. He promiſed me; and I then told him, that Mr. Oſwald had been offered to be made Comptroller of the Navy, with a promiſe that he ſhould have the aſſiſtance of all Mr. Pelham's power to reform the abuſes of it, and full liberty to follow his own opinion in parliament, and that he came to aſk my advice upon it. The Prince, concluding he would accept of the place, ſaid he was glad he ſhould find ſo honeſt a man in buſineſs. I told him, that, from the many reaſons I had given him, he declared to me that, as he ſaw no reformation could be thoroughly and effectually brought about, but by the concurrence of the Crown, which was not to be hoped for in our preſent ſituation, he had much rather attach himſelf to his Royal Highneſs, from whom only he could hope for

1751. FEB. 23.

that

1751. FEB. 23. that concurrence; but as he was no Courtier and had no connections of that kind, he must be contented to do his best in the station that was offered to him. That I bade him seriously consider whether, in case I would venture to sound his Royal Highness's disposition towards him, he would impower me to say that he would refuse all offers of the Court, if the Prince was willing to admit him into his service —That he told me, I positively might: upon which I promised to undertake it. After a good deal of talk, the Prince thanked me, and ordered me to send Mr. Oswald to him at Leicester House between seven and eight o'clock on Thursday next.

25. Mr. Oswald dined with me—he told me, he was much embarrassed at what had passed, since he saw me; of which he gave me the following account: Sunday the seventeenth, Sir Henry Ereskine was introduced to the Prince for the first time: on Monday the eighteenth, Mr. Oswald was with me to settle the report I was to make to the Prince—on Tuesday the nineteenth,

Sir

Sir Henry asked him in the House—have you received any message from the Prince? what do you mean? he returned. Has the Earl of Egmont delivered you no message? —I don't know the Earl of Egmont. He will then, replied Sir Henry, for I was introduced to the Prince last Sunday, and he asked me if I knew you—I said, yes, intimately—he then asked how you were disposed towards him—I replied, that I thought you had the highest regard for him, &c. His Royal Highness then said, I must send to him by Dr. Lee or Lord Egmont, for what comes from them, is the same as if it came from me. This seemed strange to us, but I think the drift is evident. 1751. FEB. 25

Went to the Earl of Shaftesbury's. Much talk with him about separating the Tories from the Jacobites, on the quarrel between them about the late University election, which was to be done by bringing them to a declaration of few heads, which, he said, he had made use of, and hoped he should succeed. 26.

Mr.

1751. FEB. 28. Mr. Ofwald came to me from the Prince, whom he found at Carleton Houfe—He was received very gracioufly, and the Prince talked to him on many fubjects and of many perfons, but never mentioned my name—They agreed that Mr. Ofwald was to have the Green Cloth, and to kifs hands on lady-day.

MAR. 1. Went to the Houfe. Mr. Townfhend advifed with me about General Anftruther's affair. I begged him to be very fure of his proofs, before he began a charge in Parliament—He defired leave to come to me to-morrow and to fhew me his papers, which I agreed to, but defired him to confult with wifer perfons than me.

2. Mr. Townfhend came, and I fairly fhewed him, that calling for the reports in council would lead him to embarrafs the Miniftry, who, in this cafe of Anftruther, had delayed juftice: that I fhould be glad, it fhould come forward, but not from him, apprifing him where his motion would end, fince he afked my advice as a friend, &c.

 He

He thanked me much, and it being late, he desired to come again to-morrow morning. 1751. Mar. 2.

Went to Leicester House, but just as I was going, Mr Townshend came, and to my infinite surprise told me that he had been with the Earl of Egmont, who had given him a question which comprehended the civil and military behaviour of General Anstruther, which he would read to me. He did so, and asked my opinion. I was astonished at his ignorance, and said, I had nothing to object to it. 3.

Motion by Mr. Townshend seconded by Colonel Haldane, for copies of all courts martial held by Anstruther, while he commanded in Minorca; and of all complaints against him in council, and the proceedings thereupon. Agreed, without division, to drop the courts martial till some particular facts were alledged, but to suffer the council papers to come. 4.

Went to Leicester House, where the 6.

Prince

1751. MAR. 6. Prince told me he had catched cold, the day before, at Kew, and had been blooded.

8. The Prince not recovered. Our paſſing the next week at Kew put off.

10. At Leiceſter Houſe. The Prince was better, and ſaw company.

13. At Leiceſter Houſe. The Prince did not appear, having a return of a pain in his ſide.

14. At Leiceſter Houſe. The Prince aſleep —twice blooded, and with a bliſter on his back, as alſo on both legs that night.

15. The Prince had a plentiful evacuation, and was out of all danger.

16. The Prince without pain or fever.

17. Went twice to Leiceſter Houſe. The Prince had a bad night, till one this morning, then was better, and continued ſo.

The Prince better, and ſat up half an hour. 1751. MAR. 18.

Went to Leiceſter Houſe; from thence to the Houſe of Commons, and then to Hammerſmith. I was told at Leiceſter Houſe, at three o'clock, that the Prince was much better, and had ſlept eight hours in the night before, while, I ſuppoſe, the mortification was forming; for he died this evening a quarter before ten o'clock, as I found by a letter from Mr. Breton at ſix o'clock the following morning. 20.

I came immediately to town, and learned from Mr. Breton, who was at Leiceſter Houſe when the Prince died, that, for half an hour before, he was very chearful, aſked to ſee ſome of his friends, eat ſome bread and butter, and drank coffee: he had ſpit for ſome days, and was at once ſeized with a fit of coughing and ſpitting, which laſt was ſo violent, that it ſuffocated him. Lord North was ſent to the King. This morning the King ordered the body to be opened—an abſceſs was found in his 21.

1751. MAR. 21. ſide, the breaking of which deſtroyed him. His phyſicians, Wilmot and Lee, knew nothing of his diſtemper; as they declared, half an hour before he died, that his pulſe was like a man's in perfect health. They either would not ſee, or did not know the conſequences of the black thruſh, which appeared in his mouth, and quite down into his throat. Their ignorance, or their knowledge of his diſorder, renders them equally inexcuſable for not calling in other aſſiſtance.

From Tueſday the 12th, when he ſupped at Carleton Houſe, and when he relapſed before he went to bed, the Princeſs never ſuffered any Engliſh man or woman, above the degree of a Valet de Chambre, to ſee him; nor did ſhe vouchſafe to ſee any one, man, or lady of the family, not even the Lady in waiting, till Sunday laſt, when it was abſolutely neceſſary that ſomebody ſhould appear to receive compliments; and then Lady Scarborough was ordered, inſtead of a Lord, who, as ſhe apprehended, might have expected to ſee the Prince.

Prince. She ſaw Dr. Lee one day before the death, and, juſt after the event, ſhe had a long conference, till paſt twelve, with him and the Earl of Egmont. This morning Lady Middleſex ſaw her, but was not ſent for. Lord Middleſex ſent his compliments, and was admitted. She ſent in for the Duke of Chandois, and alſo for the Earl of Scarborough at night. 1751. MAR. 21.

When this unfortunate event happened, I had ſet on foot, by the means of the Earl of Shafteſbury, a project for an union between the independent Whigs and Tories, by a writing, renouncing all tincture of Jacobitiſm, and affirming ſhort, but conſtitutional and revolutional principles. I had given his Lordſhip the paper: his good heart and underſtanding made him indefatigable, and ſo far ſucceſsful, that there were good grounds to hope for an happy iſſue. Theſe parties, ſo united, were to lay this paper, containing theſe principles, before the Prince; offering to appear as his party, now; and upon thoſe principles to undertake the adminiſtration, when he was

 King,

1751. King, in the ſubordination and rank among
MAR. 21. themſelves, that he ſhould pleaſe to appoint.—Father of mercy! thy hand, that wounds, alone can ſave!

22. Several, in much diſtreſs, here. The Earl of Shafteſbury and Mr. William Beckford here, by their own appointment; they ſaid, they came to aſk directions what to do under this fatal change of ſituation: I ſaid, that it appeared to me, that, if the Pelham party did not, inſtantly, drive out the Bedford intereſt, they muſt be driven out by that, though now the weakeſt party; but that the Bedford party would become the ſtrongeſt, having the King's favourite, and, now, only ſon at their head, and at the head of the army; that he would, by their intereſt, ſmall as it might be, and by the military intereſt, force the regency, and then, where are the Pelhams? That this neceſſity enforced the neceſſity of the projected union—that, being collected and publickly purged from Jacobitiſm, they became a reſpectable body: that if they were applied to for aſſiſtance, they might then

give it upon ſuch conditions, and for ſuch 1751.
ſhare of power as they might think ſafe MAR. 22.
and honourable for themſelves and their country. Secondly, If they were not applied to, and the Court ſhould take a right turn, that then they might, like honeſt and diſintereſted men, ſupport the Court without coming into it. And laſtly, What was moſt to be dreaded, if they were not applied to, and the Court ſhould take either a dangerous turn, or ſhould continue in the ſame conſuming way as at preſent, that then they would be ready to do, what it was their duty to do—oppoſe to the utmoſt, and declare that they mean to wreſt the adminiſtration out of thoſe hands, to take it into their own, and apply it to better purpoſes. That deſpair, which was blameable before, was now become criminal.

My company went away much ſatisfied, and determined to act accordingly.

I went to Leiceſter Houſe. The Princeſs afflicted, but well. Went to council,

1751. at night, which was very full. The com-
MAR. 22. mon prayer altered, but Prince George left, as he now ſtands. The phyſicians made a report, and delivered a paper, being an account of the body when opened—I have a copy of it—Ordered the bowels to be put into a box covered with red velvet, and carried in one of the Prince's coaches, by ſuch attendants as his Groom of the Stole ſhould appoint, and buried in Henry the VIIth's chapel. Ordered a committee to ſettle the ceremonies of the funeral.

23. Went to the Earl of Weſtmoreland's—Lord Guernſey there—held a converſation upon the preſent affairs—the Earl ſaid that he heard, that Sir John Hynde Cotton had propoſed ſending for gentlemen up, acquainting them at the ſame time, that nothing was to be propoſed to them, but to ſit ſtill and wait events. I modeſtly doubted of that meaſure, from experience of the diſpoſition of thoſe country gentlemen, who, I thought, would neither come, if nothing was propoſed, nor ſtay, if there was nothing to do; but yet, who

would

would implicitly follow a few of their Lordſhips in one or the other: from which it followed, that their Lordſhips ſhould form a ſet of propoſitions for the centre of union, and then ſhould call them together to own them, and act upon them, either taking places (if they were to be had upon honourable terms) or acting without them. 1751. MAR. 23

I was, in every part, moſt warmly ſupported by Lord Guernſey, and by Sir Edward Deering, who came in. I left them together, and thought by the very affectionate manner of Lord Weſtmoreland, when I left the room, that I had never before made ſuch impreſſion upon him.

Went to the Duke of Dorſet's—much talk. He thinks of the ſtate of the nation and of the Pelhams, juſt as we do; as alſo of the danger from the Duke of Cumberland. At the Speaker's, he alſo in the ſame way of thinking with us. 24.

1751. MAR. 25. Long converſation with Lord Limerick. He thinks with us—but we both agreed, that the Pelhams have not ſufficient reſolution to do any thing great.

27. Went to council. Orders to the Lord Steward and Chamberlain to iſſue warrants for black cloth, wax lights, &c. for the rooms at Weſtminſter, where the body is to be laid, &c. To the Groom of the Stole and Maſter of the Horſe to his late Royal Highneſs, to regulate the march of the ſervants, &c. Orders to the Earl Marſhall to direct the Heralds to prepare, for the conſideration of the council, a ceremonial for the funeral of his Royal Highneſs, upon the plan of thoſe of the Duke of Glouceſter and of Prince George of Denmark, which were formed upon the plan of the funeral of Charles the ſecond.

28. Sir Francis Daſhwood from the Earl of Weſtmoreland deſired to know, if I thought it prudent to make an overture to Mr. Pelham, as a party to join him, if he would engage to lower the land tax next year to

two

two ſhillings in the pound, and reduce the 1751.
army. I ſent my duty to the Earl, and Mar. 28.
beg'd to know, if he thought we were united enough to make overtures as a party; and if ſo, what the party was to do in return, in caſe Mr. Pelham ſhould comply. Theſe conditions are nugatory, and yet, the laſt, of all others, the moſt difficult to obtain. If we were united, we ſhould, now, demand great and national conditions, for the ſafety of the whole, which will be as eaſily obtained, at leaſt, as the reduction of the army at preſent, and which reduction, except in the view of œconomy, is trifling. Any army may be equally ruinous; and yet ſome muſt be kept till the nation can be armed by a proper regulation of the militia.

At the Speaker's, where we turned over 29.
precedents, with relation to the grants of the dutchy of Cornwall, and of the government during minorities.

Saw Mr. Prowſe, and found him well 31.
diſpoſed to the main ſyſtem. The King

1751. MAR. 31. was at Leicester House. This night died the Earl of Oxford.

APR. 3. At council, about the funeral. Ceremonial from the Heralds read—their orders were to form it on the plan of the Duke of Gloucester's and Prince George's of Denmark. But they had different orders privately, which, *then*, I did not know. I thought there was very little ceremony, and therefore said, that I supposed, that they had complied with the orders, which their Lordships gave about the plans, on which this funeral was to be formed. The Lords said, to be sure; and none seemed to have any doubts, or concerned themselves about it; so I said no more, though I am satisfied, it is far short of any funeral of any son of a King. After the council was up, I asked the Lord Chancellor about it, who said that he supposed the Heralds had complied with their orders, but that he knew nothing of it, and had never seen any of the plans. I told him that I mentioned it, because, if it should appear that any mark of respect

to

to the deceaſed ſhould be wanting in this funeral, it would certainly give great diſ-taſte. I think the plan muſt be altered. 1751. APR. 3.

The King was at Leiceſter Houſe. 4.

Saw the Earl of Weſtmoreland, but his Lady being preſent, could not talk fully with him. Mr. Glover dined with me, and the Earl of Shafteſbury came in the afternoon, and we agreed to drive it to a ſhort iſſue with the Earls of Weſtmoreland and Oxford, either to form a regular party immediately, or to give the point entirely up. If a party ſhould be formed, then to fix the ſubſcription for a paper by Mr. Ralph, to be ſupported by about twenty of us, at ten guineas each, and by what elſe we can get. 7.

Went to Mr. Oſwald's—from thence to the Earl of Weſtmoreland, with whom, and Earl Stanhope, I had a long converſation. I left them, perſuaded of the neceſſity of forming a party, united by conſtitutional principles, which ſhould be reduced 10.

1751. Apr. 10. duced into writing and ſigned by all the party. Much talk of thoſe principles, of which I mentioned ſuch as occurred to me, and of which they approved. I told them that I had once drawn ſuch a political creed for the laſt oppoſition, but the gentlemen did not care to ſign it. That, now, I thought the younger part of our friends were very much in earneſt, and only wanted proper leaders and proper points to unite heartily. The Lords agreed that ſomething ſhould be digeſted immediately: I told them that, to make a beginning, if they pleaſed, I would ſend them the paper mentioned, in which ſome hints might poſſibly be of uſe; they ſeemed very deſirous of ſeeing it, and I went home, and ſent it directly to the Earl of Weſtmoreland. I have done enough, and henceforth ſhall live to myſelf the years, which God in his mercy may grant me, unleſs I am called upon to aſſiſt.

11. I had much talk with Mr. Oſwald on the ſtate of affairs, and I told him the ſteps I had taken towards an union of parties:

that I thought I owed it to our friendſhip 1751.
to acquaint him, that, if this great plan Apr. 11.
could be effected, I muſt take my ſhare in it. He approved the greatneſs and honeſty of the deſign, and, at the ſame time, told me that Mr. Pelham had renewed his offers ſince the Prince's death, to which he had returned a very general, cool anſwer: he ſaid that he hoped, from the renewing that offer, to find that Mr. Pelham would ſhew reſolution enough to enter into engagements with ſome more of us, and avail himſelf of the preſent diſpoſitions of the people, to put himſelf upon his country, and get rid of his open enemies and falſe friends, which was, now, moſt practicable, and even neceſſary to prevent his being undone by both.

Lord Limerick conſulted with me about 13.
walking at the funeral. By the Earl Marſhall's order, publiſhed in the common newſpaper of the day (which, with the ceremonial not publiſhed till ten o'clock, I keep by me), neither he, as an Iriſh Peer, nor I, as a Privy Counſellor, could walk.

He

1751. Apr. 13. He expreſſed a ſtrong reſolution to pay his laſt duty to his Royal friend if practicable. I beg'd him to ſtay till I could get the ceremonial; he did, and we there found, in a note, that we might walk. Which note, publiſhed ſeven or eight hours before the attendance required, was all the notice that Lords, their ſons, and Privy counſellors had (except thoſe appointed to particular functions) that they would be admitted to walk.

At ſeven o'clock I went, according to the order, to the Houſe of Lords. The many ſlights that the poor remains of a much-loved maſter and friend had met with, and who was now preparing the laſt trouble he could give his enemies, ſunk me ſo low that, for the firſt hour, I was incapable of making any obſervation.

The proceſſion began, and (except the Lords appointed to hold the pall and attend the chief mourner, and thoſe of his own domeſticks) when the attendants were called in their ranks, there was not one

English Lord, not *one* Bishop, and only 1751. Apr. 13.
one Irish Lord (Limerick), two sons of Dukes (Earl of Drumlandrig and Lord Robert Bertie), one Baron's son (Mr. Edgecumbe) and two Privy Counsellors (Sir John Rushout and myself); out of these great bodies, to make a show of duty to a Prince, so great in rank and expectation. While we were in the House of Lords, it rained very hard, as it has done all the season; when we came into Palace Yard, the way to the Abbey was lined with soldiers, but the managers had not afforded the smallest covering over our heads; but, by good fortune, while we were from under cover, it held up. We went in at the S. E. door, and turned short into Henry the VIIth's chapel. The service was performed without either anthem or organ. So ended this sad day—*Quem semper acerbum—semper honoratum.*

The corpse and bowels were removed, last night, to the Prince's lodgings at the House of Lords; the whole bed-chamber were ordered to attend them from ten in the morning

1751. APR. 13. morning till the *enterrement*. There was not the attention to order the Green-Cloth to provide them a bit of bread, and these gentlemen, of the first rank and distinction, in discharge of their last sad duty to a loved and a loving master, were forced to bespeak a great cold dinner from a common tavern in the neighbourhood. At three o'clock indeed, they vouchsafed to think of a dinner, and ordered one—but the disgrace was complete, the tavern dinner was paid for, and given to the poor. N. B. The Duke of Somerset was chief mourner, notwithstanding the flourishing state of the Royal family.

15. Lord Shaftesbury came to acquaint me, that the project of union went on very successfully. I advised him to appoint a meeting, for to-morrow, of the Earls of Westmoreland, Oxford, and Stanhope, to settle the points in writing, that are to be the centre of that union. Dined at Sir Francis Dashwood's, where Earl Stanhope read to us the draught of a preamble

preamble to ſuch points, which was extremely good. 1751. APR. 15.

Went to the Houſe—the motion to put off the third reading of the naturalization bill for two months, was carried by 129 againſt 116. The report of the diſmiſſion of the Duke of Bedford and Earl of Sandwich, and of the introduction of the Earl of Holderneſs and Lord Anſon into their places, is not true; but it is likely to happen.—If ſo, they ſurely deſign to curtail the Southern Province. 16.

At the Houſe. Mr. George Townſhend opened General Anſtruther's affair, and moved a queſtion concerted with the Court, which was, that his Majeſty ſhould be addreſſed to inforce his orders, in conſequence of the report of his council, to oblige Lieutenant General Anſtruther to make ſome ſatisfaction to thoſe of Minorca whom he had oppreſſed—which muſt be very unſatisfactory and inſufficient. Mr. Townſhend, who, of his own accord, engaged in this affair; who, of his own accord, 18.

1751. Apr. 18. cord; on very slight acquaintance, desired my advice, and whom I treated with great generosity, as he acknowledged to me and others; who imprudently went from me to the Earl of Egmont, and brought from that Lord a long, inflammatory question, which he desired me to correct, and which I declined; who received from me the proper question in writing, concluding with one to establish a civil government in Minorca. This gentleman, without giving me the least intimation, contents himself with moving this tame court question; and Lord Egmont, that Lord, the other day, so violent, who drew a question so very different, thought fit even to absent himself on the present.—Such wonders has the poor Prince's death already produced!

21. Dined at Lord Middlesex's. Was told that Mr. Montague, as Auditor to the Princess; Mr. Douglas, and Mr. Boone, in the room of Sir John Cust, as Clerks of the Green Cloth; Mr. Bludworth as Master of the Horse; Messrs. Leslie, Scot, and

and Robinson, as Equerries, kissed the 1751.
Princess's hand this day. APR. 21.

Dined at Sir Francis Dashwood's. Find by Lord Talbot, that we are not likely to come to a union; for, now, the terms they propose to sign, are of a sort that imply an exclusion of coming into office—Now, as no good can be done to this country, but by good men coming into office, it is all over, and I give up all thoughts of ever being, any farther, useful to mankind. 23.

At the House. Ereskine's accusation against Anstruther, baffled by the Court through the act of Grace. 24.

Went to town to consult my constant friend Mr. Bance, about retrieving, if possible, the captainship of the Doddington East Indiaman, which Mr. Tucker imprudently and unkindly opposes me in: he being concerned (though not equally with me) and having the management of my affairs, has led the rest of the proprietors to 25.

1751. to think I was engaged, and so, to engage
Apr. 25. themselves to the person he espouses, which disappoints me in serving the person recommended to me by the Princess of Wales.

Mr. Bance has just brought Mr Tucker to me, who desists from his engagement, but I am persuaded it is now too late.

26. Went to town about the ship, but did no good. At the House. A message from the Crown to the Lords—then a message from the Lords, by Masters in Chancery, to the Commons to continue sitting some time—then a message from the Crown to the Commons, by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, recommending the Princess of Wales for Regent, with such limitations as the Houses shall think proper—then a message from the Lords, by the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas and the Chief Baron, with an address of thanks; agreed to *nem. con.*

30. Attended the levee—then at council.

Lord

Lord Holderneſs brought over—for the 1751.
ſeals as I ſuppoſe. Earl Harcourt ſworn Apr. 30.
in. Earl of Egremont ſworn as Lord Lieutenant of Cumberland.

At the Houſe. Reſolutions to pave May 3.
Pall Mall by a pound rate: Sir Francis Daſhwood, Lord Trentham, General Oglethorpe and I, ordered to prepare the bill. Senſe of the Houſe taken, if the young Prince of Wales's new ſervants ſhould be re-elected: it was agreed, not. The act was read; but thoſe who ſeemed to favour a re-election, forgot to call for the warrants that appointed them ſervants to the Prince: by whom are they ſigned? if by the King the caſe would not have admitted a word of diſpute. The perſons concerned, were Lord Down, Gentlemen of the Bed-Chamber; Mr. Selwyn, ſen. Treaſurer; and Mr. Stone, Sub-Governor.

Saw ſeveral of my neighbours about the 6.
pavement, and ſent them away pretty well ſatisfied.

1751. May 7. Went to the House of Lords. The regency bill brought in and opened by the Duke of Newcastle. Second reading to-morrow. Nothing said, but by the Bishop of Worcester, who moved, that it might be printed, and that the Lords might have time to consider it, between the second reading and committal. The Duke of Newcastle agreed to the printing, and it passed, upon the question put. In less than ten minutes after the question was carried, the Duke got up and said, that he was told by some of the Lords, that it was very improper to print the bill, upon which they resolved not to print it, and the Bishop, being supported by no one Lord, very decently offered to withdraw his motion.—Surely, it was too late after it became a question, voted and agreed to.

8. At the House of Lords. Regency bill read a second time, and committed for Friday: not a word said against it.

9. Had intelligence that, upon a message from the Earl of Bath, the Princess had signified

ſignified her entire approbation of this 1751.
bill. I had much conſultation what was MAY 9.
to be done, conſidering how many fruitleſs pains (as it now appeared) I had taken to unite and form a party, and yet no ſort of concert was thought upon, even in theſe great points. The opinion ſeemed to be, that I ſhould not go to the Houſe.

Went to the Houſe of Lords. They 10.
went into a committee upon the regency bill. The clauſe for erecting the council was oppoſed by Earl Stanhope alone, who ſaid that ſuch a council was a novelty, and that he was againſt it, becauſe he thought it unneceſſary, till he heard better reaſons given for it, than he had, as yet, heard. Nobody anſwered, or ſupported him, and he gave no other reaſons. So the clauſe was carried by a diviſion of 92 againſt 12. When they came to the clauſe of prolonging the Parliament, Lord Talbot ſtood up, and ſhewed the weakneſs of the Chancellor's arguments, which were drawn from hiſtory; and then ſaid, the prolonging the Parliament was an invaſion of the people's

 rights,

1751. MAY 10. rights, that it was the means of perpetuating a corrupt one, and was one of those things that the whole legislature could not do, because they could have no legal power to do it. Lord Granville spoke warmly for it, as the best part of the bill, all of which he approved of; and no one Lord seconded or supported Lord Talbot.

11. I communicated to Mr. Ralph my present resolution of no more meddling with publick affairs, till some party, worth appearing with, shall unite in the service of the country.

13. Dined with Sir Francis Dashwood, and the other gentlemen concerned about the paving bill. I did not go to the House, where the regency bill was read the first time. Sir Francis came home and acquainted me, that nobody but Mr. Thomas Pitt and he spoke against the bill. The Tories totally silent. The Court for it. Dr. Lee and Mr. Nugent speaking for it. All the Princess's and late Prince's court for it.

Com-

Committee of the regency bill—the clause establishing the council debated; opposed, in a very fine speech, by the Speaker. Mr. William Pitt and Mr. Fox had high words, though they were both for the bill. Mr. Pitt for the restrictions, lest the next regent should claim full powers, if the Princess should die, glancing at the Duke. Mr. Fox also for them, but defending the Duke. They replied upon each other two or three times, but Mr. Fox did not vote at last. Mr. Pitt and the Grenvilles in office voted for the bill, but Lord Cobham spoke and voted against it. Thus it was reported to me, but I was not there. 1751. May 16.

They went to day, in the House, upon the clause of prolonging the Parliament. The committee sat late. No concert between any five people, as I am told. 17.

Was to wait on the Duke of Newcastle, to thank him for getting me permission to drive through St. James's Park, while the King is at Kensington. We parted very civilly. 22.

1751. civilly. Paid Lord Middlesex 140*l.* for a
MAY 22. set of seven of the Prince's horses.

23. Went to Kensington, and kissed the young Prince of Wales's hand, but did not see the King.

28. Went to town, to return by water with the Spanish and Sardinian Ministers, Messrs. Lascaris, St. Fiorent, and Lord Barrington. We landed at Hammersmith, where we were met by the Marquis de Mirepoix, the French Ambassador, Mons. d'Abreu, and Lord Ashburnham. We all dined there.

31. At the House about the paving bill, which was read a second time, and committed to a private committee.

JUNE 7. At the House. Reported the paving bill council, and much debate against it. Carried to go on with the amendments, but forced to adjourn at the first amendment, because there were but 35 members present.

This

This evening Lord Sandwich received his letter of dismiſſion. 1751. JUNE 12.

Heard that the Duke of Bedford reſigned the Seals of Secretary, this morning, at Kenſington. 14.

Lord Trentham reſigned the Admiralty. 15.

Was at council at Kenſington. Earl of Granville ſworn in as Preſident. 17.

Lord Holderneſs received the ſeals of Secretary this morning. 18.

Lord Hartington introduced into the Houſe of Lords. Made Maſter of the Horſe. 19.

At council at Kenſington. Earl of Holderneſs ſworn firſt, as a counſellor, and then as Secretary of State. Duke of Bedford and Lord Burleigh took the oath of office, as Lords Lieutenants of Devonſhire and Rutlandſhire. 21.

I waited

1751. JUNE 25. I waited on the Princeſs to take my leave: ſhe received me in a very obliging manner. The Parliament roſe.

27. This morning I wrote to the Duke of Newcaſtle, incloſing Colonel Milles's memorial, who is in the Emperor's ſervice as Duke of Tuſcany. The memorial ſets forth, that the Oſtend Company bought two ſettlements, Banquibuzar and Covelon, of the Mogul: a rebel ſeized the province of Bengal in 1744, and took Banquibuzar from the Emperor's Governor. He deſires the King to aſſiſt him, either in retaking the province, with the conſent of, and for the Mogul, or, in making war upon the uſurper, who took, and ſtill retains his forts. He ſubmits to the King, entirely, the ſhare and diſpoſition of the gains, and the plan of the expedition.

This plan was attempted about ſix years ago, and coſt the Emperor 15,000*l.* and we prevented its execution at the inſtigation of the Eaſt India company. Mr. Milles aſſures me that the province of

Bengal

Bengal is the richest in the known world; that he knows where to lay his hands on fifty millions sterling; that he can make himself master of it with 1500 men, (and he designs to carry no more) which the Emperor will furnish—all that he demands of us is shipping, and stores, &c. enough to carry them, to be added to the three ships which the Emperor now has, and which he bought for this expedition before, at the time when we disappointed it. 1751. JUNE 27

Went to Eastbury. 28.

On Wednesday evening the Princess walked in Carleton Gardens, supped and went to bed very well: she was taken ill about six o'clock on Thursday morning, and, about eight, was delivered of a Princess. Both well. This morning died the Duke of St. Alban at London. JULY 13.

The western mail robbed near Blackwater, by one man, about one o'clock on Monday morning. 31.

We

1751. Aug. 3. We dined at Mr. William Churchill's; coming from thence, about six o'clock, from a causeway too narrow, in Mr. Churchill's meadow, called their private road, the coach was overturned into a wet ditch; the company, particularly the gentlemen, were very wet, and if there had been a foot more of water, they must all have been suffocated. We were obliged to return to the house, and we played at cards till day-light.

Sept. 4. Returned from Eastbury to Hammersmith.

8. News of the birth of a Duke of Burgundy. Mons. de Mirepoix made a Duke and Peer of France.

28. The Comte de Richecourt, the Emperor's Minister, and Colonel Milles, came here in the morning to talk about the expedition to Bengal. I wrote, immediately, an account of it to the Duke of Newcastle.

Received

Received a very civil letter from the 1751.
Duke of Newcastle, about the expedition Oct. 1.
to Bengal.

Waited upon the Duke, and was very 2.
kindly received; he told me all that had passed about Bengal, and put the event upon the consent and concurrence of the East India company. Called upon Dr. Lee, who informed me that the gentlemen, accused of a secret treaty with the late Prince, had put it in issue with the King, that the Prince applied to them, and that they declined it, and referred the King to the Princess for the truth of their assertion. This is bold, for I know the assertion to be false.

Went to wait on the Comte de Riche- 4.
court, and the Bishop of London. Colonel Milles came, to whom I delivered the Duke of Newcastle's directions, that, if he would consent that Mr. Drake and Alderman Baker, of the East India company, should ask leave of the Court of Directors to receive proposals from him, they were ready

1751. Oct. 4. ready ſo aſk it, and if obtained, to enter into the matter with him.

13. News of the death of the Prince of Orange.

14. Waited on the Princeſs, and was moſt graciouſly received. She was pleaſed to ſend for the Prince of Wales, Prince Edward, and the Princeſs Auguſta.

24. Saw Mr. Dawkins's drawings of the antiquities, which he ſaw in the Eaſt; they are exceedingly fine and curious.

29. Lord Chancellor, Lord Preſident, and I, went from the Cockpit to dine with the Lord Mayor: there were none of the council, except us three. Lord Granville and I went together.

30. The King's birth-day. The drawing-room in weepers.

Nov. 14. Parliament opened. Lord Downe and

Sir

Sir William Beauchamp Proctor, moved and seconded the address. No opposition to it. 1751. Nov. 14.

The account with Cary brought to me, I think, puts an end to the Bengal expedition. 18.

At the House. Order to commit Mr. Murray to Newgate renewed. 20.

Last Saturday the Duke of Cumberland had a bad fall from his horse, while he was hunting at Windsor. 21.

Went to council at St. James's, where proclamation, with *500l.* reward, was ordered for apprehending Mr. Murray, in consequence of a resolution of the House. 26.

This day died Lord Bolingbroke. Dec. 12.

Went to council, where the trustees for Georgia agreed to surrender their charter to the King, absolutely and unconditionally. 19.

1751. Was to wait upon the Princeſs of Wales.
Dec. 21. Received in a manner moſt remarkably kind by her and all the royal children.

1752. Waited upon the Princeſs, whoſe kind-
Jan. 1. neſs ſeemed to encreaſe towards me.

26. The Solicitor General, with other company, dined with me. On a malicious report that I had forced myſelf upon the late Prince of Wales, and into his ſervice, I explained the whole tranſaction to the Solicitor General, and produced to him, all the proper vouchers that verified it, ſtep by ſtep.

30. Went to council, where Lord Granville very imprudently drew in queſtion the validity of the French treaty of commerce, making the goods of enemies on French bottoms free from capture. This was, however, left undecided.

Feb. 2. Mr. Furneſe dined with me, and gave me an account of what had paſſed between him and the Solicitor General (Mr. Murray)

ray) about a meſſage to Mr. Tucker, by Mr. Ellis, from Mr. Pelham, to know what was to be done on a new election at Weymouth, pretending that the chuſing two, at his nomination, was to laſt always. The Solicitor General entered into a detail of my affairs with much affection and warmth, and ſaid, he knew there was not the leaſt indiſpoſition towards me in the Miniſtry, but was afraid, that the King had been ſtrongly prejudiced againſt me perſonally: that he would take it upon him to bring this matter to a proper iſſue, one way or another; as it was by no means fitting, that I ſhould offer to aſk for any thing, till I was ſure of being well received. He behaved nobly, and like a friend. The event is with God. 1752. FEB. 2.

Went to council. Gave the Solicitor General an account in writing, of the whole proceeding of the late Prince of Wales, in the demand of 100,000*l. per ann.* in Parliament. 4.

Went to the Cockpit to a prize cauſe, which 6.

1752. FEB. 6. which turned upon the authenticity of the treaty of commerce with France; several Lords (of which the Lord President was one) doubted of its being in force. I did not, and it was at last decided by virtue of that treaty. We ended that long dispute of General Anstruther and Minorca, by referring the costs and damages he is to pay, to the Master of the Rolls and General Bland.

9. Mr. Furnese called on me. He had seen the Solicitor General, who had informed him, that there was not the least indisposition in the Pelhams, but, on the contrary, a willingness to live well with me. That they said, it would not be impossible to remove the ill impressions made upon the King, but it required a little time, &c. If they removed the Pitts, &c. then it might be easy.

10. Mr. Ellis was with me: he introduced the talk of his election on a new Parliament. I told him, that I thought my behaviour, both public and private, even in

in oppoſition, never could have given juſt cauſe of offence to the Pelhams, or could have ſhewn any indiſpoſition to live perſonally well with them: that, as I was, now, entirely free from engagements, I was ſincerely deſirous of Mr. Pelham's favour and friendſhip, if he would accept of my friendſhip and attachment: if then, he would accept of my ſervices, he might, *upon proper conditions*, command my intereſt, and in that caſe, nobody would be more welcome to me at Weymouth, than he, Mr. Ellis. That this was in Mr. Pelham's breaſt, who beſt knew his own diſpoſition, but that mine was entirely inclined to be his friend and ſervant, *upon proper conditions*. This *of proper conditions*, was frequently repeated, and Mr. Ellis deſired to obſerve, that there was neither promiſe nor engagement. 1752. FEB. 10.

Saw the Solicitor General by appointment, and found his report much leſs favourable than Mr. Furneſe underſtood it. That the Pelhams were very well diſpoſed to me, but that the King was ſo much 15.

1752. prejudiced against me by former misrepre-
Feb. 15. sentations, that he feared they could answer for nothing, &c. So we parted, I taking it for a thing entirely broken off, but he saying, that he did not yet see it in that light.

20. Waited on the Princess, and was very graciously received.

Mar. 3. The King's birth-day kept. I was at court.

13. I waited on the Princess. A chapter of the Garter. Prince Edward, the Stadtholder, the Earls of Lincoln, Winchelsea, and Cardigan elected.

18. Went to council, on the particular cause of a prize taken from the Spaniards by Admiral Knowles, the 3d of September 1748, in America. It turned upon the interpretation of the terms for hostilities ceasing in those parts, which were fixed by the preliminaries of Aix la Chapelle (which refers to the treaty of suf-

ſuſpenſion between us and France, 1712) 1752.
and the proclamations, here, and other MAR. 18.
acts of ſtate, there—I delivered my opinion, at large, for reſtitution. The Lords took a further day to give judgment, but the majority ſeem to be with me, and I think, it muſt be ſo decided.

The cauſe on a capture by Admiral Griffin 19.
in the Eaſt Indies, commonly called the Laſcar's cauſe. The claim againſt it appeared to be a manifeſt forgery and was rejected; and the prize muſt be adjuſted [illegible] the captors when we next meet.

Went to council at St. James's—The 30.
King declared the Regency, as uſual, and the Counſellors took leave and kiſſed his hand. The King ſet out, about four, the following morning for Harwich.

This morning my old acquaintance, Mr. APR. 9.
Scrope, died at the age of eighty-four.

Conſulted the Speaker about Dr. Thom- 16.
ſon's privilege.

 Went

1752. APR. 17. Went to town to attend Dr. Thomſon's action of defamation againſt Saxon the apothecary, at the King's Bench—began at ſix, ended at nine—evidences, ſpeaking to the Doctor's ſkill and reputation, were the Duke of Roxburgh, Earl of Middleſex, Mr. Leviſon, Sir Francis Daſhwood, Sir Francis Eyles, Mr. Drax, and myſelf. He carried his cauſe and the jury gave 50*l.* damages.

21. At council—the Solicitor General told me he had ſpoken to Mr. Pelham, as from himſelf—that there was a real good-will and deſire to take me with them; but that they had fears to engage me, leſt they, on their part, ſhould not be able to fulfil their engagements. That they were afraid of the King, and of the party (the old Walpolians) nick-named the Black-tan, &c. The Solicitor adviſed me by all means to ſee Mr. Pelham, and that I ſhould meet with a friendly, confidential reception, &c. &c. This is nothing; but obliges me to ſee him.

Saw

Saw Mr. Pelham, by appointment, in Arlington Street—I began by telling him, that the applications I had received from Mr. Ellis about his election at Weymouth, I considered as giving me handle to wait upon him; for I was come to offer him, not only that, but all the services in my power, and that I was authorised to say the same from all my friends. He said, he should willingly embrace it, were it not for fear, that he should not be able to fulfil what he wished to do, on his part. I asked, whether he would admit of a confidential conversation—he said, he could have no reason to wish any other, and that what Ellis had said, was from him, and was meant to produce such a conversation. I then asked him, if there was any real inclination, in the Duke of Newcastle and him, to accept of us into their friendship and protection; if objections could be removed; for that I knew the different facility of removing them, when there was a little good-will at the bottom, and when it was the work of importance, only—he would observe, that I did not arrogate importance;

1752. May 5.

1752. portance; but if I had it, I would accept of
May 5. nothing that was only owing to that—that, at my time of life, nothing would tempt me to come into any Court, upon the foot of force and intrusion. That I said this, to explain to him, that I desired to live with him, and his, as their attached friend and servant; that I desired no rank which could justly create envy in my equals, or any sort of power that might occasion suspicion in my superiors. Reserving only, that, if he gave me a musket, and ordered me to a post, I should certainly fire. That, if clouds should arise, I was not afraid at all, to meet the great geniuses now on the stage. Mr. Pelham said, that there were real good wishes and good-will, and for nobody more; but how to put them in execution was what hindered him from saying all he wished—that there were difficulties, and great ones, with the King, on account of my quitting his service for the Prince's, &c. I replied, that I was aware of such a prejudice; but that I believed, when it was represented to the King, and by him as his opinion, that I could be

of

of some utility to his Majesty's service, by my own and by the weight of my friends, particularly in chusing several members, it would be the means of removing all prejudices. For that, though I knew that no pains had been spared to make him (Mr. Pelham) believe the contrary, yet I did assure him, as a gentleman and his servant, that the interest of Weymouth was wholly in Mr. Tucker and me: that in the country it was impossible to chuse one member against us, at least, without the utmost violence: that, indeed, he could give us a great deal of trouble there, and, I owned, could chuse any four he pleased (by petition) at Westminster. But that, I knew, it was not in his temper; and I could not think it was for his interest to have recourse to flagrant acts of violence, to chuse two members (which was the most he pretended to), when he might have all four, and me too, without any violence at all. 1752, May 5.

Mr. Pelham did not pretend to set up any right of the Court, or that they designed to make use of any force against me, but

1752. MAY 5. but ſaid, to be ſure, what I had hinted muſt be the way, that he muſt take towards the King; and that he would truly tell me all that he knew about the King's prejudice againſt me—that his Majeſty was angry at my quitting, though he received it better than he expected, as he had told me before: but at my going into the Prince's ſervice afterwards, the King broke out and ſaid to him, here is a fine end of civilities; here is Dodington, you made me give him, the other day, a great employment, and, now, he has thrown it at your head, and is gone over to my ſon, and beſides, a nominal place is made for him, to give him a pretence of putting himſelf at the head of his meaſures, and more to this purpoſe—after this, upon my coming to Kenſington, on a Sunday, ſome time after the Prince's death, the King ſaid, I ſee Dodington here ſometimes, what does he come for? to which Pelham replied, that he did not know, indeed, but he did not believe that I had any particular views, becauſe he had never had the leaſt hint of any; which, if I had formed any, he

he thought, he ſhould, ſooner than ano- 1752.
ther, have heard of them from the long ac- May 5.
quaintance between us; that, he was ſure, my coming to Court was to ſhew my duty, and that I deſired to live in his favour, and, he ſuppoſed, that I might wiſh for his (Pelham's) protection and deſire to come into his ſervice: but that was gueſs only—the King replied, no, there has been too much of that already—and that the converſation did not end well. That he would tell me the bottom of all his politicks and his brother's too, for they muſt in the end be the ſame; and that was, to chuſe a new Parliament, that ſhould be all of a piece; ſuch a one, as might ſerve the King if he lived, and be ſteady to put the young King in the right way, if the old one died:—that he meant a thorough Whig Parliament; for when there were factions, though a wiſe man was obliged to avail himſelf of them, as well as he could; yet they were not deſirable, nor what he meant; but he wiſhed to have a thorough Whig Parliament all of a piece. I replied, that I approved of what he ſaid, and

1752. MAY 5. and thought, that the offers I now made him, from myself and friends, might contribute to facilitate that end—he said, it was for that end, that he told it to me. That they were, now, without competition, as well with the King as they could possibly hope for: but that he was not so weak as to imagine, that it depended upon any thing but the ease they procured his Majesty, in carrying on his service: that the King's temper was to be observed and complied with, &c. &c.

That, upon the present subject, he himself was most sincere and desirous to effect it, and would do his best, and he was sure his brother would do so too, and that he would write to him in conformity. That, as to borough matters, when he was pressed about Weymouth (as, to be sure, both of us must expect), he thought the best language he could hold was, that he and I lived very well together, and that he had no room to think, that any thing would be done there, that would be disagreeable or differ-

disserviceable to him; and that I should deal in the same general terms, &c. 1752. May 5.

I said, that, as to quitting the King's service, I did not do it with any compact with the Prince; that it was full four months after, before his Royal Highness made me any offers, and he then did it in such a manner, that left me no option to refuse, without offending him for ever. That Mr. Solicitor General Murray knew this; and that I had living and written evidence to prove it incontestably. Since I came into the Prince's service, I could appeal to him, whether my behaviour was not entirely calculated to soften, rather than to inflame, even to the loss of my favour; whether, when the little, incendiary system prevailed, by which alone many of those about his Royal Highness's person could ever be of any significance, I did not endeavour to check it; and when I could not, did not absent myself from the House, rather than take a part, or countenance it. But, however, I desired the King should know, that I would not justify with my Sovereign

1752. MAY 5. Sovereign and my maſter, but ſubmitted myſelf to think that I was to blame, ſince he was diſpleaſed, and that I therefore humbly begged pardon, which was all in my power to do, except to ſhew him, by my future ſervices, that I deſerved it. That this, with the intereſt I could, and was willing to center in his Majeſty's ſervice, I thought, might be ſufficient to remove objections, (which had in reality no foundation) eſpecially, when conveyed through ſo able, ſo powerful, and, I truſted, ſo friendly a channel. That, upon the whole, he might ſee, and, I meant, he ſhould, that I was very deſirous this event ſhould take place, from a ſincere wiſh to attach myſelf to him, and to end my life with thoſe, with whom I began it. That I was deſirous to ſerve my country, and choſe to do it with the good liking of the King—but if his Majeſty ſhould ſhut up that way, that then I muſt endeavour to do it by ſuch ways as ſhould offer in the courſe of things. Mr. Pelham renewed the aſſurances of his ſincere wiſhes and endeavours, in a very decent manner, and added,

added, that he was restrained from saying what he wished, out of the regard he owed me, not to say any thing he was not sure to perform, and concluded, by inviting himself, in a most gentlemanlike and obliging manner, to Hammersmith. 1752. May 5.

Went to the Speaker's in Surry, with Mr. Chamberlayne, about Dr. Thomson's most disagreeable affair. 8.

Sir Francis Dashwood dined with me, and I communicated to him what had passed between Mr. Pelham and me; I offered him to be of the party, but he declined it. 11.

Prince of Wales's birth day. I went to St. James's. Great court, but not in new clothes. 24.

Dined with me, Lord Lincoln, Messrs. Pelham, Vane and son, Solicitor General, and Furnese. Much wine, and as much good humour as I ever met with; both lasted till almost eleven o'clock. 25.

1752. MAY 31. Dined at Lord Lincoln's with Mr. Pelham, &c.—staid late.

JUNE 7. Dined with Mr. Pelham at Esher. Much drink and good humour.

18. At the Cockpit: a complaint by Mr. Webb against Mr. William Sharpe, for taking exorbitant fees.

20. Went to attend Dr. Thomson's cause. The court would not enter into proofs whether he was, or was not, my servant.

21. I went to Mr. Oswald's. He expressed much affection and attachment towards me.

23. Went to the Cockpit. Mr. Webb's accusation of Mr. William Sharpe, for taking three guineas, as a council fee, in every prize cause, from the gainer only, heard; and adjudged to be false, groundless, and malicious.

Went to town to meet Lord Middlesex and

and Counsellor Forrester. Lord Middlesex gave me full power to make his submission, and to endeavour to reconcile him to his father. Owen tried, and acquitted, for publishing Mr. Murray's case. This is the third great case, where the Juries have insisted on judging the matter of law, as well as of fact. The first was of Bushell, the Quaker, reported by Lord Chief Justice Vaughan: the second, was that of the Bishops in the reign of James the IId. 1752. JULY 6.

I waited on the Duke of Dorset. I chose to put the question to him hypothetically; if his son should throw himself at his feet, and declare an unreserved submission and sorrow for what is past—what would he do? He was much moved. I desired he would not answer me then, as I had no commission to demand it, but that he would consider of it; because, as the family were to come to me at Eastbury, if I should receive such commission, I should think it my duty both to him and his son, to lay it plainly before him, 7.

1752. JULY 7. if it ſhould be full and ample, as it ought to be.

15. I went early to town to take my leave of Mr. Pelham. After a little general converſation, I rose to go away, and ſaid that the Solicitor General had told me, that it was not only his own, but Mr. Pelham's opinion, that nothing of our affair ſhould be broken to the King, till his return from Hanover; and, therefore, I aſked him no news. He replied, it was their opinion—that he had treated me with the utmoſt ſincerity, and would continue to do ſo—that he ſincerely wiſhed the thing, and would do every thing to bring it about—that all reaſons were for it—that he had told me the peculiarity of temper, the prejudices, &c. that made things diſagreeable, but that he would do his beſt. I replied, that, conſidering the name he bore, I could have no doubt of his ſincerity, and therefore would patiently wait the event. But that I thought, when, through a canal ſo favourable, the King

King was informed that, when I quitted his service, it was not by a bargain to enter into the Prince's, and that I never made the Prince any propofition at all—that it was more than four months after my quitting, that the Prince made me any. When his Majefty is defired to reflect, how much, when I came into the Prince's fervice, I endeavoured to bring a little temper and moderation into it, and when I could not fucceed in that, I would not fupport the incendiary part, and therefore did not go to the Houfe. That the Princefs, the Solicitor General, and other living witneffes, which I could produce, knew the firft, and that I could appeal to himfelf (Pelham) for the truth of the laft. But, fetting all this afide, when his Majefty fhould be informed that I would not juftify againft my King and my mafter. That, fince he was difpleafed, I was willing to think myfelf to blame, and humbly to demand his pardon, affuring him that my future fervices fhould deferve it. Here I defired him to obferve that, when a gentleman afks pardon, he is with us entitled

1752. JULY 15.

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1752. July 15. to it, and it was what I would not do, when I was in the right, to any ſubject in the world, or to any Prince, but himſelf. When his Majeſty was aſſured that I was capable of facilitating his affairs, and that his chief ſervants were deſirous of receiving me———

If all this, repreſented by thoſe he did, and ought chiefly to rely on, would not do, I hoped Mr. Pelham would think, that I had diſcharged my humble duty to his Majeſty, and ſhewed how deſirous I was, of paſſing the reſt of my life with him, and under his protection; for, I thought, I had ſaid and done as much as any man of honour could do, or ſay, and had gone as far as was poſſible. Mr. Pelham ſaid, that he underſtood me perfectly well, that he wiſhed the thing cordially, and would do all imaginable juſtice, and leave nothing, in his power, unattempted to perſuade the King—that, in ſhort, he had explained to me the bottom of his politicks—that he had a great regard for all Europe, but did not trouble himſelf much about it—

that

that his concern was to keep things on a right foot at home—that if the King was willing to *arrondir* his affairs, and let them get together, as many as they could of those, who could best contribute towards it; in order to go on as he was bred up, and suffer them to endeavour to have a thorough Whig Parliament chosen, which would make the remains of his Majesty's life easy, and would settle the young Prince upon the throne, so as to secure him a prospect of a prosperous reign. If *they* would let him do this, he was at their service; if not, he could be contented to be a private man as well as another—not that he complained of the King, &c. In short, here he spoke a little Pelham, but intelligible enough to those who are acquainted with the language. 1752. JULY 15.

We parted very kindly.

By the Princess's commands I passed the day with her at Kew. I arrived there about eleven in the morning, and we passed two or three hours together, alone, in the gardens. 16.

 I in-

1752. JULY 16. I informed her, by her order, of the ſtate of the Iriſh affairs, which had made ſo much noiſe. She aſked me about a report ſhe had heard concerning a reconciliation betwen the Duke of Dorſet and Lord Middleſex. I ſaid, it would be impracticable, unleſs Lord Middleſex would entirely ſubmit to his father; and even then, his behaviour had made the wound ſo deep, that I could not be anſwerable what the Duke would do. She ſeemed deſirous of it, and wiſhed I would try. I told her that, as Lord and Lady Middleſex were to be with me, in the country, I would ſee what his Lordſhip could be brought to, for from thence only it could move, if at all. I opened myſelf no farther to her. We came in, an hour before dinner. I dined at the Bed-chamber woman's table, where was Mr. Creſſet, who behaved very courteouſly to me, and is a very knowing man. After dinner, her Royal Highneſs ſent for me: we walked round Richmond Gardens: ſhe was attended by the Ladies Auguſta and Elizabeth, Meſſrs. Creſſet and Bludworth.

When

When we returned, she ordered me to come in with her: we sat down, and she turned the discourse upon the Ministry. I soon perceived she had heard something of the late correspondence between Mr. Pelham and me; I therefore thought it fit to tell her that, from an opportunity which had arisen from them, I had lately renewed my correspondence with them, and that I had taken occasion to tell them, that I was desirous of ending my life, in quiet, with those with whom I had begun it, and whom I most esteemed, &c. That they received my offers of friendship very civilly, and seemed desirous of receiving me; but that they apprehended the prejudices of the King against me, from the honour I had of belonging to the Prince, &c. That the answer I made, was that my inclinations were sincere, as, I supposed, their kind acceptance was also; and that, for the rest, I must leave it to them. I then put her in mind, that I never asked any thing of his Royal Highness; that he never promised any thing to me, till four months after I had quitted my employment; and that

1752. July 16. that I then testified my surprise to her, and acquainted her with all that passed. She said, she remembered it very well. I then reminded her, how, from my appearance as a servant at Cliefden, I formed a plan of temper and moderation: that, knowing her right way of thinking, I ventured to communicate the plan to her, and beg'd her protection, in the execution of it, even before we returned to town—that I always had persisted in it, and never would engage in any other. She replied, it was very true; she was a very good witness of it, and would always assert it, &c. I asked leave to wait on her at Kew, if she should be there at my return, which she gave me in a very obliging manner, and then I came home to Hammersmith by ten at night.

20. At half past three, without going to bed, Mrs. Dodington and I set out in our post-chaise for Eastbury, where we arrived the same day, at six in the afternoon.

Sept. 15. Messrs. Dodington, Ralph, and I went

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to Poole, to poll for a Sheriff and Mayor. 1752.
We loſt both elections, and I think Mr. Sept. 15.
Trenchard's election in danger.

We returned to Hammerſmith. 26.

Went to Mr. Pelham's. He gave me an account of Earl Poulett's correſpondence with him, about the vacancy at Bridgewater. I mentioned, that I had written to his Lordſhip, to make it a means of reconciling the family. He ſeemed much indiſpoſed towards Mr. Vere. There was company, and ſo we could not talk fully. At council, there was nothing to do but to prorogue the Parliament, and iſſue a proclamation for a Scotch Peer, on the death of the Duke of Gordon. 28.

Went to town to meet the Duke of Dorſet. I made his ſon's ſubmiſſions to him, and endeavoured to procure a full reconciliation. We had a long conference. He alledged the many, almoſt unpardonable provocations, which I know to be true; but did not abſolutely refuſe Oct. 2.

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1752. Oct. 2. to forgive him. He boggled much at the freeing his ſon from his debts, and ſaid, that nothing but his diſtreſſes drove him to think of his duty, and therefore, he expected ſome actions, to convince him of his ſincerity. To this I ſaid that, as to enumerating provocations, I thought our moſt rational point was to look for reaſons to forgive, inſtead of materials to continue the quarrel. That as to paying the debts, I wiſhed it was come to that, for I could make that circumſtance very practicable. As to the motives of his ſon's repentance, I allowed them: but he muſt allow that they were, too often, the ſame with thoſe of us all to our common Father, to whom we were more obliged, than we could be to our natural parent—That God accepted our repentance, though grounded on diſtreſs: ſhould *we* then refuſe it when offered to us? As to actions, what ſhould they be?—would he pleaſe to ſubſcribe. This was matter of ſome difficulty; and as the converſation had been very long, we agreed to meet again, to conſider if any temperament can be found. I greatly doubt it;

it: but if Lord Middlesex would help himself—though I think he will not—it might succeed. 1752. Oct. 2.

I went to town to see Mr. Pelham, and laid before him the utility of his taking the occasion of Mr. Poulett's death, to make up the quarrel between the Earl and his brothers, by chusing Mr. Vere Poulett in his place. Mr. Pelham would not enter into it, as Mr. Vere had left them unhandsomely, and had treated him ill, personally, wherever he could be heard. He was indeed for the union of the family, but he would have nothing to do with Mr. Vere, from his personal behaviour, though he could very well live and treat with those who opposed, and even personally opposed him; which, considering those he has about him, was, I thought, saying in effect, that he would take a blow from a strong man, but not from a weak one. He then said, that they knew nothing positive as to the King's coming; but should know by the next courier, whether he designed to go to Hanover the next year. For that he had written to his brother, to beg to know of 4.

1752. Oct. 4. of his Majesty, whether he would have the Parliament meet before, or after Christmas. We touched upon the subsidies attending the election of a King of the Romans: Mr. Pelham's face fell, and he grew very uneasy upon it, and expressed much dislike at the way it was conducted. He said, he was always against these subsidies; that his idea was, that, if the dissenting electors would give in the ultimatum of their demands, and perform the conditions before they received the reward, then, indeed, when we were sure of our bargain, it might be worth considering if it were prudent to pay the price: but, to be buying one elector after another, was what he abhorred and could not approve of. It must have an end—he had declared so in Parliament, and, as I was not present at the debate, he would tell me what he said, for he found that he had been misrepresented. I told him, that I had heard from many quarters how he was understood; that though I was satisfied that he said nothing but what was proper, yet, whatever was the general acceptation was

was worth attending to: I continued, that 1752. Oct. 4.
it was allowed on all hands, that he declared against the ſubſidies in general, but that he was for the preſent demand, as it was to be the laſt, and as he had good reaſon to think, it would certainly attain the end: that it was, by ſomebody, faſtened upon him, who, rejecting all that others had ſaid, declared that he voted for them, ſingly on the aſſurances given by him. Mr. Pelham replied, Who? Pitt? I ſaid No; I thought it was Mr. Fox. He repeated, in a low voice; Oh, Fox! with great ſigns of uneaſineſs and diſcompoſure, and in that ſituation I left him.

I received a letter from Mr. Creſſet, that 9.
her Royal Highneſs would ſee me this morning. I made haſte to dreſs, and got to Kew by half an hour after eleven. I ſaw her Royal Highneſs very ſoon: ſhe, the Ladies Auguſta, Elizabeth, and I went out, and we walked, without ſitting down, for near three hours. We had much talk upon all manner of private ſubjects, ſerious and ludicrous. Her behaviour was open,

friendly,

1752. friendly, and unaffected. She commanded
Oct. 9. me to dine, and to paſs the afternoon with her. When we came in, we met Lady Middleſex, who had ſent me word ſhe was to be there. We walked in the afternoon till it was dark. As we came in, ſhe ſaid, that ſhe had a petition from the Prince, that we would play at comet, of which he was very fond. The party was the Princeſs, the Prince of Wales, Prince Edward, the Ladies Auguſta and Elizabeth, Ladies Middleſex and Charlotte Edwin and myſelf.

11. I received an account from Bridgewater that, at the Mayor's feaſt, Mr. Balch, who was preſent, was declared candidate to ſucceed Mr. Poulett. I ſent an abſtract of the letter, with one of my own, to Mr. Pelham.

13. Saw Mr. Pelham, and ſpoke to him about this ſudden event at Bridgewater. He agreed that it was wholly Earl Poulett's fault, in not determining and recommending ſomebody ſooner. He ſeemed

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to be well enough ſatisfied, from the character I had given him of Mr. Balch. 1752. Oct. 13.

The Princeſs having ſent to deſire me to paſs this day with her, I waited on her accordingly between eleven and twelve. I ſaw her immediately; her Royal Highneſs, the children, and Lady Charlotte Edwin went walking till two, and then returned to prayers, from thence to dinner. As ſoon as dinner was over, ſhe ſent for me, and we ſat down to comet. We roſe from play about nine: the royal children retired, and the Princeſs called me to the farther end of the room, and the two ladies (Lady Charlotte Edwin and Lady Howe) who were to ſup with her, remained at the other end. She began by ſaying, that ſhe liked the Prince ſhould, now and then, amuſe himſelf at ſmall play, but that Princes ſhould never play deep, both for the example, and becauſe it did not become them to win great ſums. From thence, ſhe told me, that it was highly improper, the manner in which the Princeſs **** behaved at Bath; that 15.

 ſhe

1752. Oct. 15. ſhe played, publickly, all the evening very deep. I aſked with whom? She ſaid, with the Duke and Dutcheſs of Bedford: that it was prodigious what work ſhe made with Lord Cheſterfield: that, when his Lordſhip was at Court, ſhe would hardly ſpeak to him, at leaſt, as little as was poſſible to a man of his rank; but that now, at Bath, ſhe ſent to enquire of his coming before he arrived; and when he came, ſhe ſent her compliments of expecting him at all her parties at play; and that he ſhould always ſit by her in the publick rooms, that he might be ſure of a warm place, &c. I aſked her, how theſe demonſtrations with him and the Bedfords, were to be repreſented to the King? She ſaid, ſhe did not underſtand it. That, the Duke of Bedford, when he went out, treated the Duke of Newcaſtle very ill to the King, not only as to publick, but to private matters with relation to Lord Gower: but that, ſome time afterwards, in the ſummer, the Duke of Bedford relented, and aſked an audience, when he unſaid great part of what he had ſaid before (and on which account the

King

King had been very much displeased with the Duke of Newcastle) and attributed it to misinformation. I asked her, if that could be so? She replied, she was sure of it, and knew it to be true. I observed to her, that, notwithstanding this, in the winter, his Grace (of Bedford) made a formal attack, and a very strong one too, in the House of Lords, against the Saxon subsidy. She said, it was true, and that then the King was again very angry, and told *her* that the Duke of Bedford did not know his own mind. She herself, indeed, had no opinion of his judgment, but said, that he was governed by Lord Sandwich, of whom she did not think very well; that he had made the Duke resign, and that they were, both, very much combined, and in intimate correspondence with the Duke of Cumberland. How they managed with the King, she did not know, but she thought that they did not mean to act, at least, to any purpose now: that *their* views were upon the minority. I said that, in this light, it seemed highly imprudent in the Duke of Bedford to resign

1752. Oct. 15.

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1752. OCT. 15. his office, which office gave him a settled place in the council of Regency. She answered, it was very true—it was Lord Sandwich's doing—but that she was satisfied the minority was their point of action. I said, that it was necessary for her Royal Highness to look about her a little, and to secure friends in whom she could trust, to see that justice was done unto her in that event, not only from that quarter, but from all quarters; for she must have observed, that the present government had taken the best care, they could, to secure themselves. She said, Yes, good folks! they had not neglected themselves; and she would act as I had hinted, not only for her own sake, but the sake of her son and of the nation. I said that, not knowing what part her Royal Highness would take in the regency bill, I had prepared myself to oppose it; that I should have opposed it in a very different manner from those who meddled with it: that I would have opposed it upon principles, that should have made the King himself weary of the bill, not as an opposition to his

 Majesty

Majeſty and his Miniſters, but as a meaſure of his Miniſters to ſecure their own power at the expence, and in the diminution of the power of the Crown: and I did believe, that with the aſſiſtance I was ſure of, I could have hung upon the bill ſo long, and have ſhewn it in ſuch lights, that, at laſt, the King ſhould have been out of humour with it before it paſſed, as I had reaſon to believe he was, ſince. That, however, when I found, that ſhe took the party of acquieſcence, which upon conſideration (though, I thought I ſhould hardly have had the prudence to adviſe the meaſure) I was thoroughly convinced was much the moſt wiſe and adviſeable mode that could be taken; that, then, I dropped all ſhew of oppoſition and did not go to the Houſe, that I might not furniſh an handle to render me obnoxious: that, with the ſame view in the late tranſaction between Mr. Pelham and me, I had made ten ſteps to their one, ſo that if nothing came of it, they could not ſay, that I was deſirous to continue and propagate reſentments, &c. 1752. Oct. 15.

M 3 That,

1752. Oct. 15. That, I thought, the persons, now in power, extremely proper for her to go on with in case of a minority, and all, that I meant by mentioning the Regency bill, was to shew, that, as they had taken all proper precautions for their own security, it might not be unreasonable that her Royal Highness should keep a look-out, and secure such friends, who, though they acted with government, might see that she had her due share of it; for that there was such a thing as being great, and at the same time inconsiderable; that we might be born the one, but must owe our consequence to ourselves. That, however, nothing was to be done at present, but to sit still and watch events: that all was very well, that the King was very kind to the royal children, and very respectful to her, &c.

She said, that, in general, she had no objection to the Ministry—she, indeed, saw very little of them: but, what she could not excuse them for or forgive, was their not doing something for the Prince's ser-

vants: that after ſo long a time and ſo many vacancies, taking no notice of any one of them, looked as if they had a ſtudied deſign to keep old prejudices and reſentments alive: that ſhe was ſure, they might aſſiſt them if they would; that they might have prevailed on the King before now, if they had ſet about it willingly: could they pretend, they could not prevail with him in behalf of perſons who muſt be indifferent to the King, after what they had made him do for Pitt? I replied, that I agreed to all ſhe ſaid, with relation to their influence over his Majeſty, where reaſon was ſo evidently on their ſide, and I was the more flattered with it, becauſe it was my own way of thinking, ſo much that, if nothing ſhould come of what was in agitation between me and them, and they ſhould continue to hold up the King's perſonal indiſpoſition towards me, I ſhould impute it wholly to their want of inclination. She ſaid that, notwithſtanding what I had mentioned of the King's kindneſs to the children and civility to her, thoſe things did not impoſe upon her—that

1752. Oct. 15.

1752. Oct. 15. there were other things which ſhe could not get over—ſhe wiſhed the King was leſs civil, and that he put leſs of *their* money into his own pocket: that he got full 30,000*l.* *per ann.* by the poor Prince's death—if he would but have given them the dutchy of Cornwall to have paid his debts, it would have been ſomething. Should reſentments be carried beyond the grave? Should the innocent ſuffer? Was it becoming ſo great a King to leave his ſon's debts unpaid? and ſuch inconſiderable debts? I aſked her, what ſhe thought they might amount to? ſhe anſwered, ſhe had endeavoured to know as near as a perſon could properly enquire, who, not having it in her power, could not pretend to pay them. She thought, that to the tradeſmen and ſervants they did not amount to 90,000*l.* that there was ſome money owing to the Earl of Scarborough, and that there was abroad, a debt of about 70,000*l.* That this hurt her exceedingly, though ſhe did not ſhew it. I ſaid that it was impoſſible to new-make people—the King could not, now, be altered, and that it add-

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ed much to the prudence of her conduct, 1752. Oct. 15.
her taking no notice of it. She said, she could not however bear it, nor help, sometimes, giving the King to understand her, in the strongest and most disagreeable light. She had done it more than once, and she would tell me how it happened the last time. You know, continued she, that the Crown has a power of resumption of Carleton House and gardens for a certain sum: the King had, not long since, an inclination to see them, and he came to make me a visit there: we walked in the gardens, and he, seemingly mightily pleased with them, commended them much and told me that he was extremely glad, I had got so very pretty a place: I replied, it was a pretty place, but that the prettiness of a place was an objection to it, when one was not sure to keep it. The King said, that there was, indeed, a power of resumption in the Crown for 4000*l.* but surely, I could not imagine that it could ever be made use of against me! how could such a thought come into my head? I answered, no, it was not that which I was afraid of, but I

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1752. Oct. 15. was afraid there were those who had a better right to it, than either the Crown or I: He said, oh, no, no, I do not understand that; that cannot be. I replied, I did not pretend to understand those things, but I was afraid there were such people. He said, oh! I know nothing of that—I do not understand it—and immediately turned the discourse. I was pleased with the ingenuity of the attack, but could not help smiling at the defence, nor she either, when she told it. I said that, I thought, she had done all that could be expected; that prudence required letting this and several other matters sleep: that I was convinced, that the high and just opinion people had of her, made them wait with patience. She said, they were very good to her; that George had no other way of thinking, and would, certainly, act accordingly; but yet, she durst not let any body have the comfort of knowing it, lest they should put every thing into a flame: upon which, she observed to me the delicacy and ticklishness of her situation. I, then, took the liberty to ask her, what she thought the

the real disposition of the Prince to be?— 1752. She said, that I knew him almost as well Oct. 15. as she did; that he was very honest, but she wished that he was a little more forward, and less childish, at his age; that she hoped his preceptors would improve him. I beg'd to know what methods they took; what they read to him, or made him read; and whether he shewed a particular inclination to any of the people about him. She said, she really did not well know what they taught him; but, to speak freely, she was afraid not much: that they were in the country and followed their diversions, and not much else that she could discover; that we must hope, it would be better when we came to town. I said, that I did not much regard books, that what I the most wished was, that his Royal Highness should begin to learn the usages and knowledge of the world; be informed of the general frame and nature of this government and constitution, and of the general course and manner of business, without his descending into minutias. She said, she was of my opinion, and that

1752. Oct. 15. that Stone told her, that, when he talked to the Prince upon those subjects, he seemed to give a proper attention and made pertinent remarks: that Stone was a sensible man, and capable of instructing in things, as well as in books: that Lord Harcourt and the Prince agreed very well, but she thought, that he could not learn much from his Lordship: that Scott, in her opinion, was a very proper preceptor: but that for the good Bishop, he might be, and she supposed he was, a mighty learned man, but he did not seem to her very proper to convey knowledge to children; he had not that clearness which she thought necessary: she did not very well comprehend him herself, his thoughts seemed to be too many for his words. That she did not observe the Prince to take very particularly to any body about him, but to his brother Edward, and she was very glad of it, for the young people of quality were so ill educated and so very vicious, that they frightened her. I told her, I thought it a great happiness, that he shewed no disposition to any great excesses, and beg'd to know

know what were his affections and paſ- 1752.
ſions. She repeated that he was a very Oct. 15.
honeſt boy, and that his chief paſſion ſeemed to be for Edward. I ſaid that, as her Royal Highneſs had mentioned the negative which the Miniſtry ſeemed to continue upon the Prince's friends, I preſumed to aſk her about the young Prince's affections towards his father's memory; becauſe he was, now, bred in a manner, and in hands ſo totally unacquainted with the late Prince, and with thoſe who had been about him, that he might very eaſily be brought to forget them; which, I feared, at the firſt ſetting out in life, would give a very diſadvantageous, if not a dangerous impreſſion of him: that trifles are of conſequence in the firſt outſet (particularly thoſe that relate to the heart) to Princes, whoſe lighteſt actions engage the attention, and whoſe elevation expoſes them to the continual inſpection of mankind: that many good things loſe their gloſs at leaſt by untoward impreſſions: that a great deal of power might be required to do things, where affection and confidence were

1752. Oct. 15. were wanted, which a very little might bring about, where they were once eſtabliſhed by firſt and favourable impreſſions. That, for theſe reaſons, I ſhould be extremely ſorry that his Royal Highneſs ſhould entirely forget thoſe, who had been faithfully attached to his father, as that attachment was the only reaſon that could be given to juſtify the proſcription which they, now, lie under. She ſaid, that ſhe agreed with me, that nothing could be more diſadvantageous and hurtful to him: that it would affect her very ſenſibly; that ſhe had no reaſon to apprehend it, as the Prince ſeemed to have a very tender regard for the memory of his father, and that ſhe encouraged it as much as ſhe could: that when they behaved wrong, or idly (as children will do) to any that belonged to the late Prince, and who are, now, about her; ſhe always aſked them, how they thought their father would have liked to ſee them behave ſo to any body that belonged to him, and whom he valued; and that they ought to have the more kindneſs for them, becauſe they had loſt their friend and

and protector, who was theirs alſo; and 1752.
ſhe ſaid, ſhe found that it made a proper Oct. 15.
impreſſion upon them. I humbly beg'd that ſhe would cultivate and improve the perſonal influence, which her many virtues, as well as natural affection gave her over the Prince: that I was ſure, that, from her influence, and the ſettled opinion of her prudence with all mankind, all the diſintereſted and ſenſible amongſt us, hoped for a happy ſettlement of the new reign: that I did not mean authoritatively and during a legal minority, but during the very young part of the King's life, and till time and inclination had brought him thoroughly, to weigh and underſtand what the government of a great country was. She expreſſed herſelf civilly for the regard I teſtified for her, and ſaid ſhe could have nothing ſo much at heart as to ſee him do well, and make the nation happy. N. B. I have forgotten ſomething very particular, *viz.* In expreſſing her diſlike to the Princeſs A——a and the Duke of Cumberland, ſhe ſaid, that, though ſhe did not value thoſe things, nor ſeem to ſee them, yet

ſhe

1752. ſhe could not but wonder at the very lit-
Oct. 15. tle regard which the Duke was pleaſed to ſhew her. That ſhe had been at Kew the whole ſummer, and he had never vouchſafed to favour her with one viſit. That ſhe had been ill for three weeks, not much, indeed, but ſo that the town reports were that ſhe was dying; but his Royal Highneſs never thought her worth ſending after, even once, to know how ſhe did: ſhe continued, that ſhe was very indifferent to theſe matters, but ſhe could not help wondering what views were at the bottom of it. I came home between ten and eleven, and have been the more particular in this converſation, becauſe it carries an air of friendſhip and openneſs which I, no way, expected from a great lady, who has eſtabliſhed a character for prudence in not opening herſelf much to any body, and of great caution to whom ſhe opens herſelf at all.

17. I ſaw Lord Middleſex, and had a long talk with him in preſence of Lady Middleſex; and in the evening I ſent him a draught

draught of a letter from him to the Duke 1752.
of Dorset, which he will not send, nor Oct. 17.
do any thing, I believe, for himself: if so, he will render it impossible for me to do any thing for him.

I went to town with design to go to the 22.
Prince's drawing-room in black, being in mourning for the Countess Temple. After a little time, the Earl of Hyndford was so obliging as to come and tell me, that, he believed, I had forgotten that they did not appear in mourning that day, it being the coronation-day. So I was forced to slip away. I spoke to the Solicitor General to consider, how I was to open the transaction, between Mr. Pelham and me, to the Duke of Newcastle.

I received my draught from Lord Mid- 26.
dlesex, with a letter in a good degree conformable to it, from him to the Duke of Dorset. Sent him a draught of another to his mother, the Dutchess.

I dined with the Lord Mayor. No Nov. 9.

 coun-

1752. counsellors, but those of the law, except
Nov. 9. the Speaker and myself.

14. Called at the Duke of Dorset's, and delivered a letter to him, and another for the Dutchess, from Lord Middlesex. Much conversation to induce a relation, but could not obtain a declaration of the conditions on which he would be reconciled. He objected to the usage he had received, in which he was too well grounded; and next, to the incapacity he was under of paying his son's debts. I told him we were not come to that yet—I wished we were, as I could point out means very easily, to shew that those debts were not so formidable, &c.—I hinted some. We were now interrupted.

18. The King came to town about five o'clock.

19. I called at the Speaker's, and proposed, upon supposition he was in the chair of the new Parliament, Dr. Sharpe for his chaplain. I received a general answer of

regard for me, and eſteem for the Doctor. 1752.
I think, I find that he will be Speaker, and Nov. 19.
I hope, he will get ſome reverſion for his
ſon as an inducement for him.

Went to the Duke of Newcaſtle, who 21.
received me with very much kindneſs. I
kiſſed the King's hand.

I waited on the Princeſs, and gave her 22.
a full account of the tranſaction about a
reconciliation in the Dorſet family. She
received it with great pleaſure, and treated
me with uncommon condeſcenſion.

Monſ. Lamberti, the French agent, 26.
called on me. He inſiſted that the King
muſt go to Hanover early in the ſpring—
that the election of a King of the Romans
was the thing next his heart—that, by
the Golden Bull, *abſolute unanimity* of the
Electoral College, as alſo of that of *the
Princes*, was required—that, upon thoſe
conditions, and ſatisfaction to her allies,
(the Palatine and Pruſſia) France would
not oppoſe it; but that ſhe would, without

1752. Nov. 26. that ſatisfaction—that the pecuniary ſatisfaction of 1,200,000 florins, and the barony to the Palatine, was ſettled, but the expectation of Ortenaw was not—that, when Bavaria left France for the Houſe of Auſtria, the recompence was fixed by the treaty of Fuſſen; that we engaged for the performance—that a private treaty was ſince ſigned by the Duke of Newcaſtle, Meſſrs. Munchauſen and Haſlang, by which we further engaged to make it good—that the Bavarian ſubſidy was to be augmented—that of Cologne to be ſettled. I aſked why all theſe things might not be negociated at London, as well as at Hanover: he replied, becauſe the Miniſters, who treated thoſe affairs there, did not come hither—that theſe were another ſort of men, men of buſineſs, and abilities, wholly bred for negociations, and not for characters and ſhew—that the German Princes who ſent thither their confidents and Miniſters of State, who never came to London as reſident Envoys—that nothing farther of effect could be done here, this winter, in that matter, and that all the negociations

would

would be with France about the limits in 1752.
America; and, as to that, they had cart Nov. 26.
loads of memorials to exchange with us, whenever we pleaſed.

King's birth-day kept. Lord Hillſbo- 27.
rough began a converſation with me at Court. He thought there muſt be ſome diſturbance ariſe from the Pitt party: that, though they were ſo well placed, they were ſtill uneaſy: that they neither liked others, nor were liked by them. I ſaid, I could not conceive that they would ſtir. He ſaid, Yes; for that Pitt's paſſion was ambition, not avarice—that he was at a full ſtop, as things were, and could have no hopes of going farther: he was once popular; and if he could again make a diſturbance, and get the country on his ſide, he then might have hopes: now, and on the preſent ſyſtem, he could have none. I replied, I thought they could not part with what they had, &c. &c. He ſaid, they had the Temple pocket—that, to his knowledge, they were all as one, and would ſtand and fall with Pitt, as their head.

1752. Nov. 27. Lord Hillſborough wondered that they did not break out; he daily expected it. I ſaid, that, in all likelihood, if ſuch a ſcheme was on foot, his Lordſhip would know it as ſoon as any body; for he muſt be ſenſible, that it was impoſſible for them to attempt it, without holding out a hand to people, to extend and fortify their own connections, &c. He ſaid, to be ſure, but not to him—that they knew his opinions too well—that, when they broke from me, he followed me—that he never was more than commonly acquainted with Pitt—that Pitt had once dined at his houſe, and they might viſit perhaps once in a winter—that his Lordſhip loved George Grenville perſonally, but no ways eſpouſed his politicks: that, for himſelf indeed, his alliance with Lord Kildare naturally led him to Mr. Fox, and that he was much more likely to ſucceed than Pitt—that the Pitts could not be quiet, but had been dabbling with the Prince, and that their plans were prevented by the Prince's death, as to be ſure, I knew, and Mr. Pelham knew: therefore they muſt be diſagreeable to each other,

and they could have no hopes of rising by him. That Mr. Fox had something very frank and open about him, and that he resolved to push for his turn—not by opposition, for he had a family, and could not afford to part with his emoluments; but, if accidents should happen, he pretended to succeed—that, indeed, Mr. Pelham's life was as good as his, and he would not oppose him; but that he should endeavour to be next, and would consider himself as such. I asked, whether he held out his hand, &c. His Lordship said, Yes, to all the world; that it was prodigious how many friends he had made. He had got the Duke of Cumberland, the Dukes of Marlborough and Bedford, Lord Sandwich, and the Duke of Richmond of course. That he was very well with Lord Hallifax, who seemed to trim, as near as he could, between Mr. Pelham and him, and that now he was endeavouring to get Lord Hartington. That, if Mr. Pelham was out of the way, he thought that the Duke of Newcastle did not like Fox personally, nor did the Chancellor. As to Pitt, the King himself

1752. Nov. 27.

1752. himself would be against him. But, said
Nov. 27. he, I think you are not acquainted with Fox. I replied, that I had always known him, and always liked him very well, but had not conversed much with him of late. He said, he wondered at it, and what should be the reason of it? I said, that I fancied it was occasioned by the other side, for though I liked Mr. Fox very well, it was possible he might not much like me. He said, he could not believe it. I said, some lies might probably be told him, but that I had never deserved ill of him; if it was so, his opinion of me must be, and ought to be, extremely indifferent to me. He said, he had never heard any thing drop from him of that kind, and if he had any dislike to me, it must be from my pushing Sir Robert Walpole, for Fox really loved that man. I said, surely my breaking with Sir Robert Walpole was nothing personal to him; I did it publickly, at the expence of a considerable employment, and what Mr. Fox thought of it was, what never did, nor ever could give me any the least concern. Then the

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conversation became general, the beginning of which I thought very singular. 1752. Nov. 27.

I went to the Duke of Dorset, and obtained of him, that he would willingly see Lord Middlesex, on condition that he would form no pretension to have his debts paid, or to a seat in Parliament, or to a place. I took this down in writing, but I doubt Lord Middlesex will not go: if he does, and resolves to continue to use all his advantages, he will succeed. But it must be the work of time, perseverance, and insinuation. 28.

I delivered the Duke of Dorset's message to Lord Middlesex, and gave him an account of the conversation; I then said what I thought was proper. 30.

Lord Harcourt resigned being Governor to the Prince. He offered to do so, unless Mr. Stone (placed as Sub-governor by the Ministers), Mr. Scott, tutor in the late Prince's time (but recommended by Lord Bolingbroke), and Mr. Cresset, made treasurer Dec. 5.

1752. Dec. 5. ſurer by the Princeſs's recommendation were removed. The King deſired him to conſider of it; but Lord Harcourt continuing in the ſame reſolution, the Archbiſhop and Lord Chancellor were ſent to him, to know the particulars of his complaints againſt thoſe gentlemen. He replied, that the particulars were fit only to be communicated to the King, and accordingly he waited on his Majeſty, which ended in his reſignation. The Biſhop of Norwich ſent his reſignation by the ſame Prelate and Lord. His reaſons, if he gave any, I ſhould have known, if a gentleman, who was going to tell me, had not been interrupted by company.

6. The Duke of Dorſet came to tell me that Lord Middleſex had written to the Dutcheſs for leave to wait on her, and that ſhe had appointed to-morrow morning. I hope all will, in time, end well.

8. Lord Middleſex informed me that he had ſeen the Duke and Dutcheſs of Dorſet; that he was very coldly received by the Dutcheſs,

Dutchess, and not much better by them both together. This is very injudicious in their Graces, but his Lordship must persevere. 1752. Dec. 8.

Mr. Pelham sent for Cary, the surgeon, on pretence of the Westminster election, but, in reality, to question him about a letter which he had written to Mr. Vane, and which Mr. Vane had sent to Mr. Pelham, who interpreted it to insinuate, that I was out of humour because nothing was settled or said to me. Mr. Pelham said, I must know how much this squabble with Lord Harcourt had engrossed their whole time and thought, and in a disagreeable manner. That they could not be *throwing at* the King every day—that he had the greatest kindness and esteem for me, and that a proper person should shortly speak to me. 12.

Went to the Duke of Dorset, and, I think, left him disposed to receive his son kindly. I saw Lord Middlesex, who, I hope, will make a proper use of all opportunities. 17.

Lord

1752. Dec. 18. Lord Waldegrave declared Governor to the Prince, and on the 20th, was fworn of the council.

22. Was with the Duke of Dorfet. We talked over the affair of the Prince's family, and agreed that there muft be a counter ftory of the court fide, or the refigners would run away with the publick opinion. I left him, ftill, well difpofed to his fon.

28. I waited on the Princefs: fhe was pleafed to fend the royal children to prayers, and to ftay with me. I refolved to avoid mentioning all public affairs, on account of the difturbances, now frefh, in the Prince of Wales's family; and therefore, I began by acquainting her with what had paffed, relating to the reconciliation in the Dorfet family, fince I had feen her Royal Highnefs. She faid, fhe was afraid it would be hard to complete it fo, as to anfwer Lord Middlefex's ends entirely; and fhe feemed to be of opinion, that, though Lady Middlefex was no ways in fault, and though neither the Duke nor the Dutchefs had

dropt the least word about her; and though 1752.
Lord George had been with Lady Middle- Dec. 28.
sex twice, in the same house with her, and never once saw, or asked after her, yet she was inclined to think, that Lady Middlesex should go to wait on the Dutchess. I was glad to learn her opinion, for I wanted to know it. I replied, that there were oddnesses about them, which were peculiar to that family, and I had often told them so. She said, there was something very odd amongst them, and, laughing, added, that she knew but one family that was more odd, and she would not name that family for the world. I said, it did not become me to guess at her Royal Highness; but if it did, I was sure I could not guess it in a hundred years. She laughed and said, *à propos*, there has been fine doings in our family; a very fine bustle indeed! I am glad we are rid of them. I said, it had indeed occasioned a great deal of talk. She replied, she was quite weary of hearing it—that there was such an outcry at two people's leaving them, as if they were the most considerable men in the nation; and who

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1752. occasioned as much wonder and outcry,
Dec. 28. two years ago, when they came to them, on account of their being too unknown to come thither—that she knew nothing of the Jacobitism, the arbitrary principles, the dangerous notions of those who were accused, or any such, attempted to be instilled into the children—that she could not conceive what they meant—that the Bishop, indeed, was teaching them logick, which, as she was told, was a very odd study for children of their age, not to say, of their condition. I said that, whatever they meant, they both must often, before things came to these extremities, have applied to her Royal Highness, and have laid before her some ostensible reasons, at least, for a ground for their resolution to resign, when the King returned. She replied, never:—that she knew nothing of their intention, till Lord Harcourt had been with the King—that the Bishop had, several times, given her an account of the progress the children made—that he behaved in the most flattering and servile manner, in the accounts he gave: and then he

he often insinuated, that there were those about the Prince, who encouraged his Royal Highness against him, &c.—that she told him, as the truth was, that she was entirely innocent of any such practices herself, and did not know of any body who could be accused of it; and particularly, could not perceive by the children, when they were with her, that any ill offices had been done him—that the last time the Bishop had been with her, he complained more strongly of being disregarded; he beg'd her protection, shewing the great necessity of a preceptor's being respected and supported, &c. Upon which she told him, that she always inculcated in the children to shew him great respect, and was very far from endeavouring, or even wishing, that it should be lessened: and this, says she, not for love of you, my Lord, but because it is fitting and necessary; for if they are suffered to want respect that is due to one degree, they will proceed to want it to another; till, at last, it would come up to me, and I should then have taught them to disregard me. This, she said, was the last

1752. Dec. 28.

1752. DEC. 28. laſt converſation ſhe had with the Biſhop. I aſked her, if ſhe could remember when it was: ſhe anſwered, ſhe thought about the end of September, or ſoon in October. That, as to Lord Harcourt, he never took the leaſt notice of her; that ſhe had hardly ſeen him, three times, the whole ſummer, though they lived ſo near together at Kew: that, when he came for the Prince, ſo far from ſending in to her, he would ſtay in the hall; and though preſſed to it by the ſervants, he would not come into the picture-room, where we always ſat, when ſhe was above, till ſhe came to us or ſent for us up. I aſked, if he always fetched the Prince home: ſhe ſaid, Yes; at a certain hour. I ſaid, I had heard ſo, and did, indeed, a little wonder in myſelf, that I had never ſeen Lord Harcourt, when I had the honour to play at cards with their Royal Highneſſes in private; for as the game could not be up to a moment, I thought it natural his Lordſhip ſhould let his Royal Highneſs know that he was below; and I preſumed ſhe would, as naturally, ſend for him up: ſhe ſaid, to be ſure ſhe ſhould; and

and I might well wonder. But ſo far from that, he never came near her: that he had been twice this year in Oxfordſhire, and that ſhe never knew when he went, or when he returned: I then ſaid, that I could not conceive, according to the common form of things, even though his reſolution might be taken, how it was poſſible that he could avoid waiting upon her, to lay ſome reaſons before her Royal Highneſs, by way of expoſtulation or apology, before the King came home: ſhe ſaid, he never did, nothing like it: that, ſince his return from Oxfordſhire, the very firſt time ſhe ſaw him, was at the foot of the ſtairs at St. James's, the night the King came (Nov. 18); that the next time, was the birth-day (27th) in the private rooms; that he endeavoured to avoid her, but ſhe got between the door and him, and took him by the coat, and ſaid, he was very fine: he ſaid, Madam, it is all the manufacture of Spitalfields, and ſo walked off. That, the Tueſday before, he had been with the King, to repreſent that her children were in the way of imbibing dangerous no- 1752. Dec. 28.

1752. DEC. 28. tions, &c. That he had no authority, and could do no good, unless Stone, Cresset, and Scott were dismissed; that they were Jacobites, &c. and had been bred so, they and their families. I said, this charge upon their families and education made me smile; for that, though I had a personal regard for Lord Harcourt, and did stedfastly believe, that he was as faithful a servant and subject, as any the present family on the Throne had: yet I was sorry to say, that I remembered his predecessor, following the Oxford circuit, a very poor, but reckoned a very shrewd lawyer; which shrewdness in the poor professor, as he rose, had justice done it, and was called genius and abilities as it really was; for he was very able, very skilful, and more eminent by his talents and capacity than by his post. But, till the last years of his life, he was always esteemed a thorough Jacobite: he even stands impeached upon these principles, and though not proceeded against, he is excepted in several acts of grace. That I was sure, Lord Harcourt abhorred those principles, and would, with cheer-

fulness,

fulneſs, riſque every thing for this royal family; but I thought it ſtrange that people ſhould not allow converſion to be as natural and ſincere in other families, as we had happily experienced it in his; and that, upon the whole, I could not imagine what they meant by this whole tranſaction, as to the matter, and yet leſs, as to the manner. She ſaid, that, however it was, the King was very well pleaſed with them; but that ſhe could eaſily gueſs what they meant. I ſaid, that now I was ſerious in aſſuring her Royal Highneſs that I could not gueſs. She replied, one might gueſs by their falling upon Mr. Creſſet, who had no more to do with the Prince's education, than I had—that they had a deſign to get his place for another, and ſhe thought it was for Lord Talbot's brother; but as the King took her recommendation, now Creſſet was to be brought into the quarrel—that theſe gentlemen were leagued with ſome greater people, whom ſhe need not name to me, to get the Prince to their ſide; and then, by their behaviour, to throw her off from

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 her

1752. her temper, and ſo make their complaints
DEC. 28. to the King ſtronger, and then to make her diſoblige his Majeſty, in defending the accuſed; not doubting, if they could once force her into any indiſcreet warmth, to make ſo plauſible a ſtory to the King, as might compaſs their deſign; which is, to carry the Prince into thoſe other hands at laſt, by taking him from the people, now about him, and by degrees, conſequently, from her. This failing, behold the next ſtep—the Biſhop comes to take his leave of me, and with abundance of fawning and flattery, thanks me for all my goodneſs to him, and all the regard I had been pleaſed to ſhew him, &c. when he was in the family; hoping that I would believe, that he left it like an honeſt man. I replied, continued ſhe, that, for the regard I had ſhewn him, or any ſervices I had done him, he owed me no obligation; it was no more than was his due, and what I ſhould always pay to any body, whom the King was pleaſed to put about my children in the ſame ſtation—that as to the motives of his leaving the family,

as

as I was not acquainted with them, I could ſay nothing about them. Then, said ſhe, comes my Lord of Harcourt, and he, in a drier way than the Biſhop, takes his leave, by thanking me for the favours and ſupport he had received from me, while he was in the family: and in return, I thanked his Lordſhip for the conſtant care and attendance he had beſtowed upon my ſons. I replied to her Royal Highneſs, that I was ſurpriſed at the whole before, by what I had heard from the publick talk; but that, now, I was aſtoniſhed. She ſaid, ſhe thought ſhe had ſome little reaſon to take it ill, that ſuch grievous complaints ſhould be made of managements about her ſon, without giving her the leaſt previous intimation of them; that Lord Harcourt complained ſtrongly to the King of dangerous notions, and arbitrary principles being inſtilled into the Prince; and that he could be of no uſe, unleſs the inſtillers of that doctrine, Stone, Creſſet, and Scott, were diſmiſſed. That, as he named no particulars, the King had ſent the Archbiſhop and the Chancellor to 1752. Dec. 28.

1752. command Lord Harcourt to acquaint them
Dec. 28. with the particulars—that his Lordſhip's anſwer was, that the particulars were fit, only, to be communicated to the King, and that he would wait on his Majeſty with them. (All this I knew before.) That he did ſo, and that ſhe had ſince talked with the King, and his Majeſty told her, that Lord Harcourt had only run over the ſame general topicks again, without entering into any particulars at all: that the King had aſſured her of this, and ſhe believed, he had told her the truth. But, continued ſhe, they have miſſed their ends, for the King was in very good humour with her and the children, and imputed nothing to them in this whole tranſaction. I ſaid, that I was extremely pleaſed her Royal Highneſs had not been thrown off her temper by this behaviour, conſidering how offenſive it was, how deep it was laid, and who were at the bottom of it: for that I, particularly, and I believed, all good men placed their chief hopes in the Prince's continuing in her hands and under her direction, and in her preſerving that influence

over

over him, which was justly due to her, as well from her prudence, as from nature.— she replied, they would not find it easy to make her lose her temper. I told her of an anonymous letter sent to Dr. Newton, a popular preacher, of St. George's, setting forth the dangerous way the Prince's education was left in, and, after touching on the Doctor's popularity, concluding by putting it to him as a duty to take notice of it in the pulpit. She had not heard of it, and seemed at a loss to guess what it meant. I said, the only meaning I could give it was, though perhaps with too much refinement, that they had or would write anonymous letters to the same purpose, to forty or fifty of the London clergy; in hopes that, among so many, one hot-headed fellow might be found, who would take fire at it, and endeavour to distinguish himself by trying to raise a flame about it. But I did not think proper to tell her Royal Highness of another anonymous letter, which was sent to General Hawley, on Wednesday the 20th inst. which, when it was opened, contained nothing to him, but

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1752. Dec. 28. was a ſort of a repreſentation or remonſtrance to the King from the Whig nobility and gentry; ſetting forth (as may be ſeen in my papers No. 9,) their great concern and apprehenſions for the Prince's education from the hands in which he, now, is; their diſſatisfaction at the manner, in which the power of the crown was lodged; that, indeed, ſome of thoſe who, by their offices, were called Miniſters, and ought to be ſo, were ſometimes tumbled and toſſed about, but that there was a permanence of power placed in three men, whom they looked upon as dangerous; and that theſe men entirely truſted, and were governed by two others; one of whom had the abſolute direction of the Prince, and was of a Tory family, and bred in arbitrary principles; and the other, who was bred a profeſſed Jacobite of a declared Jacobite family, and whoſe brother, now at Rome, was a favourite of the Pretender and even his Secretary of State. In ſhort, the corollary was, that Murray, (Solicitor General) and Stone, governed this country. This letter was ſent to General Hawley with an intent

intent no doubt, that he ſhould immedi- 1752.
ately carry it to the Duke, that his Royal DEC. 28.
Highneſs might lay it before the King and make what firſt impreſſions he could. Whether the General did ſo, I don't know, but I do not ſuſpect him of ſo much fineſſe; but what is certain, is, that he ſent it or carried it to the Secretary of State, who laid it before the King. What was the effect, I can't tell; but I know they were very much intrigued to find out whence it came, and who was the author.

Mr. Furneſe called on me, and from a 1753.
converſation with the Solicitor General, JAN. 3.
brings me new proofs of the King's indiſpoſition towards me.

The Biſhop of Peterborough made Pre- 9.
ceptor to the Prince of Wales.

I had a long converſation with Mr. Vane 20.
about our negociation with the court, and he ſeemed to think it much for their intereſt to agree with us. He expreſſed great apprehenſions of the Duke and his party.

The

1753. The Princeſs ſent for me—I found her
JAN. 25. with the Ladies Auguſta and Elizabeth—we began with talking of the reconciliation in the Dorſet family: from that, ſhe ſpoke of the Pruſſian memorial, of which I gave her my ſentiments, which were, that it was, no doubt, meant to be very offenſive, not only in matter, but in manner: for that, through the whole, there is no mention made of the King, but the repreſentation is made to the nation and to the Miniſtry, which I thought highly indecent—ſhe replied, ſhe thought it perplexed them very much—I ſaid, it muſt do ſo, from the difficulty of finding a way to reſent the affront. She ſaid, if we did reſent it, that Hanover was open, and the King of Pruſſia could do what he pleaſed with it, as eaſily as I could come into the garden where we were, from my terrace. I replied, he had taken an imprudent occaſion to inſult the King, becauſe the preſent quarrel was upon a point purely Engliſh, without the leaſt mixture of German, and could not be reſented on the Electorate without alarming every Prince in

in Germany. That the King of Prussia 1753. must know, that the House of Austria Jan. 25. watched with impatience to recover Silesia: that he was less a match for Vienna, than Hanover was for him: that I knew, he wanted a war, because he felt his country sinking under the number of troops, which he kept in it, in time of peace. That I did not think France was in a condition, or in the disposition to enter into a war immediately, and, if he was not very sure France would, that he played very deep and very dangerously indeed. This part, as well as the rest, of the conversation which was long, being carried on in the cold air, the Princess muffled up, and mostly speaking low that the children might not hear it; I shall choose to throw the principal parts together, as shortly and as clearly as I can, though not exactly in the order they were spoken, but as much in the words as I can recollect—the Dutchess of Devonshire's assembly, of last Monday, was mentioned; from thence Mr. James Pelham's of last night, which was professedly for hazard, and for the Ministry and Court. She

1753. JAN. 25. She expressed great dislike at playing publickly at forbidden games: she spoke, reasonably and warmly, of the ill example and encouragement it gave to all sorts of dissipation, &c. &c. I agreed with her, and mentioned the precautions, which Lord Treasurer Godolphin used, to conceal his passion for play, though he practised it to the last: (but added, to change the discourse) that it was but once a year, at a relation's house; that they had little to do, for all Parliament opposition was over; no body attended, and therefore it was natural that they should amuse themselves a little. She said, Yes, all seemed to be quiet now, but how long would it continue so? they never were in so ticklish a situation, as at present: that they were frightened three years ago, but with very little or no reason; that now they had reason; they must know it and feel it, and she was amazed they did not look out for assistance and friends whom they could depend upon, but that their cowardice would be their ruin. I said, I wondered at it too, that their own real friends and dependants were very

very much narrowed; but at the fame time, fhe would pleafe to confider, that it was not eafy for them to make new connexions; for people of rank and real efficiency, who were unengaged and truly neuters, were but few; and againft almoft every one of thofe few, either from falfe reprefentations or caprice, the King had taken prejudices, which the Minifters did not care, or did not dare to combat, which, I fuppofed, was the occafion of their not ftrengthening themfelves. She faid, with great warmth, that, when they talked to her of the King, fhe loft all patience, for fhe knew it was nothing: that, in thefe great points, fhe reckoned the King no more than one of the trees we walked by, (or fomething more inconfiderable, which fhe named) but that it was their pufillanimity which would make an end of them. I faid, that it was, indeed, furprifing; and if they were willing to accept of affiftance, which I was confident, they really wanted, and would not, I was much concerned for them: becaufe, to be fure, in great things the King muft comply with what 1753. JAN. 25.

1753. JAN. 25. what was reasonable. For instance, Madam, to put a Lady of your Bedchamber, or a Groom of the Stole about your Royal Highness, with whom you must live; or your Private Treasurer, who must enter into all your little domestick, personal details, I ought to consult your inclinations, nay, even your caprice: but to recommend one of your Receivers in Cornwall, your interest and the facility of your service ought only to be considered, and you ought not to be indulged in rejecting him, by having taken unfavourable impressions against him, because it would render your service impracticable; and all, so rejected, must believe that I never meant to serve them, or that I had no interest with you, and should not, long, be able to support myself. She said, it was most certainly so, the King was nothing in these things; and every body would drop from them, one by one, on account of their own cowardice. I told her that, surely, she had a right to insist upon their acting otherwise, considering the great support she had given them in the late ticklish,

family

family tranſaction. She ſaid, ſhe had done them ſervice; but it ſignified nothing, if they would not help themſelves. I replied, it was great pleaſure to me, to find that her Royal Highneſs favoured thoſe gentlemen; becauſe, for my own part, I really liked and eſteemed them, much more than any, who might probably, and who were, now, endeavouring to, ſucceed them; and becauſe I was deſirous to live with, and ſupport them: that I knew nothing of particulars, but that I ſpoke the language of the town, in ſaying, that ſhe had very greatly and uſefully eſpouſed their cauſe, and, therefore, that ſhe ought to have great weight with them. She ſaid, ſhe was afraid the town ſaid more of it, than ſhe deſired; that the truth was, it was certainly her's, and her family's buſineſs, to keep well with the King, and conſequently to countenance thoſe Miniſters he employed, and ſhe had done ſo; but ſhe did not underſtand that ſhe was bound to them ſo, as to be in their hands. I replied, that this was the difficulty, and that it was hard to avoid falling into the hands

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1753. JAN. 25. hands of either one ſide or the other; it was a ticklish ſituation: and here I ſtop'd. She ſaid, ſhe had helped them, and was aſtoniſhed at their cowardice, in not making new friends. What ground did they ſtand upon? Could they doubt, but that her *good* brother and ſiſter were, the whole day long, doing them all imaginable miſchief at St. James's? That, while they were leſſening every favourable thing, they were heightening and exaggerating every unfavourable one? The Duke of Bedford ſtirring Heaven and Earth in the country; opening his houſe and courting every body in town? What would become of them? Every body would leave them by degrees, on account of their puſillanimity. I ſaid, I was very ſorry for their inaction, for that her Royal Highneſs would pleaſe to obſerve that, to people, who by their ſituation are thrown into politicks; action, in that caſe, is what life is to the body: we cannot ceaſe to live for a time, and then, take up life again: ſo in politicks, we muſt act in ſome way or another, and we cannot ceaſe action for a time, and then take

take it up, again. That I wished the present Ministry unfeignedly well, and was desirous to employ all my credit and friends in their service; that, besides my friends and their interest, I would undertake to chuse five members for them, without putting them to a shilling expence, or desiring them to make a tide-waiter: that I thought much, if not their all, depended on a new Parliament, and I was willing to give them my poor assistance, as her Royal Highness had espoused their cause; and as I was, in my opinion and inclination, made more prepossessed in their favour, than for any body, who was in any likelihood to succeed them. Here ended all that was material. I am at a loss to guess, why this great lady presses conversations of this nature upon me; I neither attempt, nor deserve her confidence, nor am I so low, as to be fond of half confidences. I think she must become nothing, by either siding with the Ministry or the Duke. A third party, of her own, is her only resource in case of a minority, but where she will find that

1753. JAN. 25.

1753. JAN. 25. party, may be difficult; and whether she will find resolution to attempt it or to support it, may still be more difficult. It may, possibly, be her wisest party, and, probably, the party she has or will shortly take, to take hands privately with the Duke of Cumberland, and, instigated by the timidity of the Ministers, agree with him and repeal the regency bill, and be thus sole regent in appearance, and he in effect. This I think certain, that, if they do not immediately remove the Duke from the army, and with eclàt, he will overpower both her and the Ministry, who will probably think of struggling when it is too late, but who will not, I think, dare to strike when it might be easy and decisive.

FEB. 1. I went to the House to vote for the liberty to import Champaign in bottles. Lord Hillsborough moved it; Mr. Fox seconded it. We lost the question—ayes 74, noes 141.

8. I waited on the Princess and saw her alone.

alone. I entertained her with town talk, and pleaſantries that had paſſed where I dined. She began, at once, by ſaying ſhe had good news to tell me: that they were very happy in their family; that the new Biſhop gave great ſatisfaction; that he ſeemed to take great care, and in a proper manner: and that the children took to him, and ſeemed mightily pleaſed. I ſaid I was very glad that all their Royal Highneſſes were pleaſed with the Biſhop, whom I did not know by ſight; but that ſhe would give me leave to hope, that they were all very well pleaſed with the new Governor alſo, who was my very good friend, and for whom I had a very great regard. She replied, yes, indeed; that ſhe was but little acquainted with him, but, from all ſhe ſaw, ſhe had a very good opinion of him; that he was very well bred, very complaiſant, and attentive, &c. and the children liked him extremely: but, ſays ſhe, I took upon a Governor as a ſort of pageant, a man of quality for ſhow, &c. I ſtick to the learning as the chief point: you know how backward they were, when we

1753.
FEB. 8.

1753. Feb. 8. we were together, and I am sure, you don't think them much improved since. It may be, that it is not, yet, too late to acquire a competence, and that is what I am most solicitous about; and if this man, by his manner, should hit upon the means of giving them that, I shall be mightily pleased. The Bishop of Norwich was so confused, that one could never tell what he meant, and the children were not at all pleased with him. I said, that the whole transaction was a very odd thing, that, certainly, there must be some bottom to it, which we at a distance could not discern. She replied, she thought so; that the stories about the history of the Pere d'Orleans were false: the only little dispute, between the Bishop and Prince Edward, was about le Pere Perefix's history of Henry the IVth, and that was nothing at all to produce such consequences. That there must be politicks at the bottom: that there was a story of the Bishop's having said, that Murray, (the Solicitor General) when he was first appointed, told him that Lord Harcourt was only a cypher; that,

that, as he (the Biſhop) had parts and abilities, he might eaſily get the whole into his own hands, and at the ſame time adviſed him not to omit ſo fair an opportunity: that ſhe believed it was a lye, but if it was true, the Biſhop muſt be a bad man to betray the private advice of a friend. I ſaid, I was moſt confident it was falſe: that Mr. Murray had too much ſenſe to meddle at all, with what did not belong to him; but if he had done it (which I could never believe) I was ſure it could only be in favour of his friend, Stone, with whom he was cloſely connected: that I looked upon Mr. Murray to be a very eminent man, and much the moſt able and efficient of all thoſe, who were openly and honourably attached to the Miniſtry. She ſaid, it was very likely; ſhe thought they had very few friends, and wondered at their not getting more, and that it was their cowardice only which hindered them: that, if they talked of the King, ſhe was out of patience; it was as if they ſhould tell her, that her little Harry below would not do what was proper for him; that juſt ſo, 1753. Feb. 8.

1753. Feb. 8. the King would ſputter and make a buſtle, but when they told him that it muſt be done from the neceſſity of his ſervice, he muſt do it, as little Harry muſt when ſhe came down. I replied, I was ſincerely ſorry, not for the preſent, but that I apprehended this want of real, attached, and declared friends might produce ugly conſequences and conteſts, in caſe of a demiſe. She ſaid, it was to be apprehended, but ſhe could not help it. I ſaid, that they ought, for her ſake, and from what they owed her, to think of thoſe conſequences. She anſwered, they owed her nothing; that in regard to the laſt diſturbances in the family, ſhe proteſted, ſhe knew no more than ſhe had told me—that ſhe never conceived it would come to an open rupture: and again proteſted that, when ſhe heard that Lord Harcourt had been with the King, on his arrival, to reſign, ſhe was as ignorant of it, and as much ſurpriſed at it, as I could be: that what had been done ſince, in the replacing them, was done in the puzzled way which I knew, and in which ſhe had very little or no ſhare; and that,

for the Miniſters, ſhe had never ſeen them in her life. Madam, ſays I, your Royal Highneſs will forgive me, but if I had not catched myſelf, I was juſt going to ſay, Lord, Madam! what do you mean?—I mean, anſwered ſhe, juſt as I ſay; the only way I could ſee them in the Prince's time, I don't call ſeeing them; and ſince that time I have never ſeen the Duke of Newcaſtle, what I ſhould call more than once, but as I am ſpeaking to you with great exactneſs, it was twice; and I have not ſeen Mr. Pelham at all—no, not once. The Duke was, once, here, with the Archbiſhop and the Chancellor, upon ſome formality; and laſt year, when the King was out of the way, he ſtole over to Kew, to take his leave, but has never been here, ſince his return, though almoſt every body has, as Lady Yarmouth, Munchauſen, Lord Anſon, &c. Mr. Pelham has behaved better, and always very civilly: he had not the ſame reaſons; he might indeed at firſt, before our money-matters were ſettled, have taken that occaſion to come; but as he did not do it, he has had no call; and fears, I ſup-

1753. Feb. 8.

1753. FEB. 8. I suppose, the King's jealousies and suspicions, who is never without them. When the Duke of Newcastle was with me, I very strongly testified my surprise to him, that he should neglect such a body of the late Prince's servants; that, though they had wished me and my part of the family, better than any other party; yet, as that was over, and they were willing to come under him, surely some of them were worth accepting. If they were not to be rewarded for their attachment, it was surely strange that they were to have an exclusion put upon them for it. He shuffled and hesitated upon this; but at last said, to be sure it should be thought of, and brought about. I said, it was indeed surprising; for, that those gentlemen, instead of having acquired any merit by their services, were not even allowed the fair play that they would have had, if they had never entered into the service of the Royal family: I thought it very disadvantageous, because, in case of a demise, that all would be to be done, which ought to have been long settled, and ready to be done, in case of

of accidents. She ſaid, that the Duke durſt not come near her for fear of her ſiſter Amelia. I aſked her, if ſhe thought he could be ignorant of her diſlike to him, even to inveteracy. She anſwered, no; but ſtill he was afraid of her. That he had once, ſince he came, got leave to ſee her, but on condition that ſomebody ſhould be in the room: but that, in the caſe I mentioned, ſhe ſhould ſoon enough have him trotting on all fours to her. That ſhe had nothing to do with them: could they believe, if the time ever came, that ſhe ſhould forget thoſe whom ſhe had mentioned to them?—that ſhe ſhould forget, what ſhe ought moſt to remember, from duty, from intereſt, and from gratitude? She could not help it—it muſt be *alors, comme alors*. Perhaps the fewer engagements ſhe was under the better. Thus ended this other very ſingular converſation. 1753. FEB. 8.

Mr. Glover dined with me, who read his tragedy of Medea. 11.

The

1753. Feb. 13. The Duke of Bedford moved for Nova Scotia papers very ably.

15. The cabinet met, and ſat late, on the ſtrange imputation of Biſhop Johnſon's, Meſſrs. Stone's and Murray's being Jacobites, and having drunk the Pretender's health at Vernon's, the linen-draper's, about twenty years ago. They got but half through, and will ſit again to-morrow.

23. Lord Ravenſworth's extraordinary committee ended, which began the 15th inſt. and ſat ſeven nights.

26. I went to Lord Hobart's concert, which is extremely good, and perfectly well underſtood. The cabinet met to ſettle the report to be made to the King upon Meſſrs. Stone's and Murray's affairs, of which more hereafter.

Mar. 3. I waited upon the Princeſs, who was pleaſed to inform me, that Mr. Stone was determined to proſecute Mr. Foſſet for defamation; that his council were the Attor-

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ney General, Mr. Hume Campbell, Mr. Ford, and Sir Richard Floyd. I said, though I was in no connection with Mr. Stone that entitled me to call him friend, yet I had long known and observed him; that I had a real esteem for him, and thought him very honest and very able, and I was convinced, that the King had not a more faithful subject, nor one more truly affectionate to every branch of the Royal Family! that upon this foot, I was not without apprehensions of bringing such an affair into a Court of Justice. Failure, in the least circumstance of proof; tampering with evidence or juries, &c. made me a little uneasy. She replied, she was so too, but they would have it so: that Stone had behaved very well to her, and to the children; that, though it would be treason if it was known, yet he always spoke of the late Prince with great respect, and with great civility of all those whom he knew the Prince had a real value for. That Lord Harcourt behaved very differently; that he not only behaved very ill to her, but always spoke to the children of

1753. MAR. 3.

1753. MAR. 3 of their father, and of his actions, in so disrespectful a manner, as to send them to her almost ready to cry; and that he did all he could to alienate them from her, in so much, that they themselves were sensible of it; and that George had mentioned to her once, since Lord Harcourt's departure, that he was afraid he had not behaved to her, sometimes, so well as he ought, and wondered how he could be so misled; to which she answered, no, but that, now and then, not with quite so much complaisance, as a young gentleman should use to a lady. I said, I flattered myself she would find a very different behaviour in Lord Waldegrave. She said, yes indeed; that she liked very well all she saw of him. I hinted that this whole thing seemed much deeper laid than at Murray and Stone, and that it struck at the Pelhams. She said, most certainly—they must be blind if they did not see it, and the greatest cowards alive, if they did not resent it: that, now, was the time; and they were undone, if they neglected the opportunity: she repeated, they were undone; that the

King

King took the thing highly in their favour, 1753.
and talked of it as the most unworthy at- MAR. 3.
tack, and told her that Stone had served him faithfully these twenty years, and that he knew all that he himself knew: that if he was a Peer, every body would think him proper to be Secretary; that his Majesty had been with her an hour and held this sort of conversation. I said, I was happy the King had taken so favourable an impression; that I hoped and believed it would last: but, however, that it should be made use of, while it was so strong, because it was possible it might cool; considering, as her Royal Highness herself had been pleased to observe to me, who those persons were, who were always about the King at St. James's, and that the Ministry had nobody there. She said, to be sure: they must strike while the iron was hot, or be ruined: that she had told Stone so, who said, they had promised to do what was proper: and that she had replied, Mr. Stone, it is actions, now, and not words that must be expected: that she had seen her great, great fat friend (the Duke) who talked to her

1753. MAR. 3. her about it, and asked her if she did not think it a very disagreeable affair: that she answered, yes, but that she did not regard it. He asked her, if she was not very sorry it happened: that she replied, not at all, if the Ministers would make a proper use of it. She told me then, that Murray had behaved with spirit, and made an exceeding good speech, of which she gave me a detail as far as she remembered, and particularly took notice that he had marked strongly that it was not he nor Stone that were principally struck at, but that it went home to the Ministry.

6. I went to a cause at council; the Solicitor, who was for the appellant, left the reply to the Attorney, during which we had a conversation, wherein he acquainted me with his behaviour; that he was brought in by implication only; that Stone was principally meant and named by Lord Ravensworth, who, from what Fosset had said to him in private conversation, came up and insisted that Stone should be dismissed, and that so peremptorily to the Duke

Duke of Newcaſtle, that he was obliged to lay it before the King, who ſlighted it: but Stone inſiſted with him, to have it examined into, which gave occaſion to the bringing it before the council. When he (Murray) heard of this, he ſent a meſſage to the King, humbly to acquaint his Majeſty, that, if he ſhould be called before ſuch a committee, on ſo ſcandalous and injurious an account, he would reſign his office and would refuſe to anſwer—that the King highly approved of it—that when it was over, and Stone had been heard, he thought proper to demand an audience, and made a ſpeech, part of which he repeated to me. It was full of ſpirit, and charged the matter home, as a deep-laid combination againſt the Miniſtry, &c. I ſaid, every body ſaw it in the ſame light, and thought, that if they did not act, they were undone: that the King was now in the moſt favourable diſpoſition; but how long it would laſt, might be doubted, conſidering who were neareſt to him, and that there was nobody to parry for the Miniſters. That I had ſome reaſons to think the Princeſs was much

1753. Mar. 6.

alarmed

1753. Mar. 6. alarmed at their inactivity: that, unless they could shew they had strength of friends to second her, how could she support them? That I had it from coffee-houses, that the design was to end in repealing the regency act, and making the Duke regent; that (if they did not represent strongly to the King, that, if he liked the absolute tranquillity of the two houses, he must leave it to them to make use of such instruments, as they thought proper, to continue it) they were ruined. The Solicitor approved of all I said, step by step, in very strong terms. He seemed much alarmed at the repeal of the regency bill, and said, that all I said was true; that they must act or be undone: they themselves knew it, and he thought they certainly would act, and he particularly approved of what I proposed should be said to the King.

8. We went to see the manufacture of tapestry from France, now set up at Fulham by the Duke. The work, both of the gobelins and of chaillot, called savonnerie, is very fine, but very dear.

Mr.

Mr. Pelham, Mr. Vane, Mr. Furnese and I dined together, by appointment, at Mr. Vane's. The offer of our thorough attachment, in return for Mr. Pelham's thorough friendship and protection in bringing us into court, was renewed, and my views of meaning to support their power, and not sharing it as a Minister, was explained. Mr. Pelham, in a very frank and honourable manner, declared his real desire and inclination to accept our friendship, and return his own: that, if his friendship was sufficient to effect the whole, he would with pleasure engage for the whole: but that he could not answer for the King, whose prejudices were very strong against me, and chiefly, for my having quitted his services for his son's, &c. but that every thing in his power he would do to remove them, to make way for a measure so truly agreeable to him. I then entered into a detail (which I offered to prove) of the injustice and unreasonableness of these prejudices, and then said, that from this long account, he might naturally expect a request to enter into a justification, either 1753. MAR. 16.

1753. either by myself or by him: but that I did
MAR. 16. not desire to justify with the King. That all I desired him to say to the King was, that, though it was never in my intention to offend his Majesty, it was sufficient that he was displeased, for me to think myself to blame; and that, to induce him to forgive me, I humbly offered him my services and all the interest I had in the House, and out of it, for the rest of my life. I added, that I thought this submission and this offer of five members at least, should be sufficient to wipe away impressions, even if I had been a declared Jacobite. He said, it was all that could be said, and all should be made of it, that his credit could make. But that, if it should be practicable, and I should be in any station, and the King should not be prevailed on to behave to me as I might justly expect, I might grow uneasy and be dissatisfied, as in the case of Pitt; to whom they could never persuade the King to appear commonly civil. I answered, no, not in the least. He said, yes, I might fancy so, and he believed I should. I replied, that I answered with

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certainty, becauſe I had conſidered and made up my mind about that. That all I wiſhed of the King was, to make me over to him (Pelham,) to let him diſpoſe of me, as he thought fit, and ſuffer him to receive my friendſhip, attachment, and ſervices. That I deſired by no means to encroach upon his Majeſty's time, or thoughts, or behaviour, provided he would give him (Pelham) leave to employ me, for his Majeſty's ſervice, in the way that was moſt agreeable to him. That I would give him my reaſons with the utmoſt freedom; which were, that, indeed, if I was a new man, and in any ſtation, I ſhould, in paying my court, expect that ſort of civil return which was my due: but after ſuch unworthy prejudices, and ſo void of all foundation taken againſt me, I ſhould never deſire any converſation or intercourſe with his Majeſty, more than a diſtant, but profound reſpect on my ſide, and that, as ſeldom as was conſiſtent with the duty of a moſt faithful and reſpectful ſubject. Upon the whole, Mr. Pelham behaved in ſo open and noble a manner, as to chuſe to make it plain,

1753. MAR. 16.

1753. MAR. 16. plain, ten times at least, (though he did not make use of the expressions precisely) that I should rather see that he wanted power, than have any doubt of his sincerity, if it did not succeed; and that the doubt of his strength and power alone, hindered him from promising positively to effect it: and therefore, if I judge this right, I am obliged to him, and am determined to be his friend, whether it succeeds or not.

22. Went to the House of Lords, the Duke of Bedford opened the affair of Fosset's report against the Bishop of Gloucester, Stone and Murray, and appealed to Lord Ravensworth, who opened the whole transaction in a long narrative. Then the Duke, in a long speech, founded his question upon that narrative, which, in substance, was to address the King for the whole proceeding before the council: The Chancellor and Duke of Newcastle answered him, and to make this question (which was foreseen, and I think needed not to be so timorously apprehended) the more unnecessary, they had obtained of the King to dispense with the

the oath of those Lords of the council upon this occasion, and to suffer them to acquaint the House with the whole proceeding, which those two Lords did pretty much at large. The debate was long and heavy; the Duke of Bedford's performance moderate enough; he divided the house, but it was not told, for there went below the Bar with him, the Earl Harcourt, Lord Townshend, the Bishop of Worcester and Lord Talbot only. The Bishop of Norwich and Lord Harcourt both spoke, not to much purpose; but neither of them, in the least, supported the Duke's question. Upon the whole, it was the worst judged, the worst executed, and the worst supported point, that I ever saw of so much expectation.

1753. Mar. 22.

I will now set down in writing the exact truth of this strange, important trifle.

Mr. Fosset, Messrs. Murray and Stone, were much acquainted, if not schoolfellows, in early life. Their fortune led them different ways: Fosset's was to be a

 country

1753. country lawyer and recorder of Newcaſtle.
MAR. 22. Johnſon, now Biſhop of Glouceſter, was one of their aſſociates. On the day the King's birth-day was kept, they dined at the Dean of Durham's, at Durham; this Foſſet, Lord Ravenſworth, Major Daviſon, and one or two more, who retired after dinner into another room; the converſation turning upon the late Biſhop of Glouceſter's preferments, it was aſked who was to have his Prebend of Durham: the Dean ſaid, that the laſt news from London was, that Dr. Johnſon was to have it: Foſſet ſaid, he was glad that Johnſon got off ſo well, for he remembered him a Jacobite ſeveral years ago, and that he uſed to be with a relation of his who was very diſaffected, one Vernon, a mercer, where the Pretender's health was frequently drunk. This, paſſing among a few familiar acquaintance, was thought no more of at the time: it ſpread, however, ſo much in the north (how, I never heard accounted for) and reached Town in ſuch a manner, that Mr. Pelham thought it neceſſary to deſire Mr. Vane, who was a friend to Foſſet and who

employed

employed him in his buſineſs, to write to Foſſet, to know if he had ſaid this of Johnſon, and if he had, if it was true. 1753. MAR. 22

This letter was written on the 9th of January; it came to Newcaſtle the Friday following. Foſſet was much ſurpriſed; but the poſt going out in a few hours after its arrival, he immediately acknowledged the letter by a long, but not very explicit anſwer. This Friday happened to be the club-day of the neighbouring gentlemen at Newcaſtle—as ſoon as Lord Ravenſworth, who was a patron and employer of Foſſet, came into the town, Foſſet acquainted him with the extraordinary letter he had received: he told him, that he had already anſwered it, and being aſked to ſhew the copy, ſaid he kept none; but deſired Lord Ravenſworth to recollect, if he held ſuch a converſation at the Deanry of Durham, the day appointed for the birth-day. Ravenſworth recollected nothing at all of it. They went to the club together, and Ravenſworth went the next morning to ſee his mother in the neigh-

1753. MAR. 22.

bourhood, with whom he ſtaid till Monday; but this thing of ſuch conſequence, lying upon his thoughts, he returned by Newcaſtle. He and Foſſet had another converſation, and in endeavouring to refreſh each other's memory about this dreadful delinquency of Johnſon, Foſſet ſaid, he could not recollect poſitively, at ſuch a diſtance of time, whether Johnſon drank thoſe healths, or had been preſent at the drinking them, but that Murray and Stone had done both, ſeveral times. Ravenſworth was exceedingly alarmed at this, with relation to Stone, on account of his office about the Prince; and thus the affair of Johnſon was quite forgotten, and the epiſode became the principal part. There were many more conferences between Ravenſworth and Foſſet, upon this ſubject, in which the latter always perſiſted, that Stone and Murray were preſent at the drinking, and did drink thoſe healths. It may be obſerved here, that, when he was examined upon oath, he ſwore to the years 1731 or 1732 at lateſt. Foſſet comes up, as uſual, about his law buſineſs, and is examined by Meſſrs.

Meſſrs. Pelham and Vane, who never had heard of Murray or Stone being named: he is aſked and anſwers; only with relation to Johnſon, never mentioning either of the others: but the love of his country, his King, and poſterity, burned ſo ſtrongly in Ravenſworth's boſom, that he could have no reſt, till he had diſcovered this enormity. Accordingly, when he came to town, he acquainted the miniſtry and almoſt all his great friends with it, and inſiſted upon the removal of Stone. The miniſtry would have ſlighted it, as it deſerved; but, as he perſiſted and had told ſo many of it, they could not help laying it before the King, who, though he himſelf ſlighted it, was adviſed to examine it, which examination produced this moſt injudicious proceeding in Parliament. The Duke of Devonſhire was the only one of the committee, who was abſent from the Houſe. The miniſters, and indeed, every body elſe, did imagine, and, I believe ſtill do, that this whole affair is combined with the reſignations, and that there was a ſet of pretended friends to the Pelhams ready to take advantage

1753. MAR. 22.

1753. vantage of it; and, I know, that Mr. Pel-
MAR. 22. ham did think that this motion would give great lights to it. How far their expectations are answered, I cannot say; mine were entirely disappointed, for the whole was so ill conducted and supported, that I should almost be tempted to believe, that the grounds, which carried our conjectures into a sort of certainty, had no foundation at all.

29. I waited on the Princess, who seemed much pleased that the affair had ended so well in the House of Lords, and said, that it was owing to the King's steadiness and resolution, that it went no farther: that his Majesty took it with good sense and proper firmness, without which the Lords of the Cabinet would not have behaved as they did. It is remarkable, that this is the first time, that I ever heard her speak favourably of the King. In mentioning my reasons for having an opinion of Mr. Stone, without having any friendship with him, I said, that from thence I was glad when I heard he was placed about the Prince,

Prince. She replied, ſhe was not; on the 1753.
contrary, ſhe was very ſorry, and much Mar. 29.
alarmed at it. I was ſurpriſed, and aſked why? She anſwered, becauſe the Prince had always taught her to believe, that Stone was a Jacobite, and that ſhe did firmly believe it: that the Prince was convinced of it, and, when affairs went ill abroad, uſed to ſay to her in a paſſion, how could better be expected, when ſuch a Jacobite as Stone was truſted?

Lord Middleſex and Mr. Forreſter were May 2.
with me to ſuggeſt a plan for laying a ſtate of his Lordſhip's debts before the Duke of Dorſet: they amount to 15,000*l.*——

Mr. Ralph gave me an account that Mr. 7.
William Beckford was with him laſt Saturday, and told him, that they had a body formed, not a large one, which would act together: that they found it neceſſary to employ the preſs, and that they thought him the ableſt perſon, &c. That they propoſed ſetting forth a paper: He deſired to know, with whom he was to be engaged,

beſides

1753. May 7. besides Mr. Beckford? and asked, if the Duke of Cumberland was to protect them? he was answered, with the Duke of Bedford, but Mr. Beckford could not tell whether his Royal Highness was concerned. Ralph then asked, if he, with his instruments, was to be secured and protected against all law prosecutions? what establishment for himself? and if he was to lay down his own plan and write in conformity to it, or, if it was expected, that he should be confined? answered, that he should be thoroughly protected, and by those who would own him in both Houses —that his allowance should be handsome, but could not then name the sum, and that he was to be at entire liberty. Upon which, being pressed to go to the Duke of Bedford, who desired to see him soon; he promised Mr. Beckford to take an early opportunity of waiting upon his Grace.

8. Mr. Vane, now Lord Barnard, called upon me: I talked very strongly to him, and told him of the open manner of inlisting all sorts of people against the Pelhams. I mentioned Ralph's resolution, and put him in mind,

mind, that I had offered his (Ralph's) services as my friend, and bade him recollect in how improper a manner Mr. Pelham had rejected him: I told him, that I had reason to expect that Pelham should have given up his resentments against him, on my account; but that, certainly, prudence should have made him do it, for his own sake. Lord Barnard thought writing of great consequence, though, he said, Mr. Pelham did not. I replied, that Mr. Pelham mistook himself; that no man was more susceptible of its effects, and no man more easily hurt by it: was there a stronger proof of it, than the present case? What was this irreconcileableness against Ralph occasioned by, but the impression of a pamphlet, which, after all, the man did not write? That I was sure, Mr. Pelham would repent it very soon, and that I no way farther interfered in it; yet I desired he should know this, and more particularly, that (as I had given him the offer of a most useful, honest, and able man, and upon his rejecting it, had, some time since, given him fair warning by 1753. May 8.

1753. May 8. by him, Lord Barnard, of what would happen) I must have no complaints, or insinuations, or even thoughts, that I was any way, act or part, in any thing that might come out: it was language I would not hear, and insinuations I would not suffer. I was sorry for the step, because I knew how naturally people were misled when they were hurt. Who could tell, what a man, that had been Secretary of State, might furnish? and how galling it might be rendered by the ablest pen in England? That I was grieved to see so little spirit opposed to so much vehemence and virulence, as their declared enemies acted with; that their efficient enemies, it was true, were but few in number, but yet, they were the King's son, and daughter, and a Duke of Bedford: that I thought the Pelhams had not three such efficient friends, in or out of St. James's: that my fears suggested, and reason confirmed me, that, if they did not exert themselves, and give proofs of their power to the world, by their protection to their friends, numbers would gradually drop from them: that